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PROSPECTIVE and RETROSPECTIVE.

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No. XIII.
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GRAND COMMUNICATION
BETWEEN
ENGLAND and IRELAND
BY THE
NORTH-WEST OF SCOTLAND.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE
HON. HOUSE OF COMMONS APPOINTED
TO EXAMINE INTO THE COMMUNICA-
TION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND IRE-
LAND, BY THE NORTH-WEST OF SCOT-
LAND.

[Ordered to be printed, June 15, 1809.]

THAT which concerns the public at large is felt with only an ordinary and cursory feeling by individuals; nor is it easy to interest individuals deeply in subjects of a general nature. It may be true, that the welfare of the nation proceeds with constancy, or even with acceleration, yet those who enjoy the advantages consequent on such progress, conscious that they share but a small part of the whole, feel as if their proportion were a nullity; and because they cannot distinctly identify the benefit, they are almost ready to deny the source from which it springs. Self-love is so powerful in the human mind, that if the whole community, ourselves excepted, prosper exceedingly, we scarcely know how to derive gratification from the blessings dispensed around us;—but the captious “what’s that to me?” expresses our unsympathetic discontent. For the
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losses that we experience, no general good resulting to the community, can compensate: for the disappointments that we suffer, no success enjoyed by the body politic can offer equivalents:—but present the prospect of advantage, we discover throughout the vista, a thousand beneficial results to the public: we know, we are certain, we are positive, that THIS is the most desirable for the country; and will be most profitable to the nation!—this suggestion is the happiest!—this plan is the most admirable!

We are far from supposing that the advantage of a people cannot be reconciled with that of individuals: we admit, also, that the beneficial effects resulting from a judicious proposal, may combine the prosperity of the country at large, with the emolument of a single principal; and we know no reason that would justify complaint in the many, against the augmented wealth of an individual, or of an estate, while the vicinity was benefited in equal degrees. This in fact is the leading principle on which most of the recent great improvements have taken place, in the United Kingdom. Would the extensive canal-navigation now communicating incalculable conveniences to all parts, have been established; would it even have been seriously contemplated, had not private interest afforded that stimulus, which banished rest till the scheme was executed? What impulse can be assigned for the execution of that arduous and expensive conception, the Duke of Bridgewater’s canal, except the prospect of immense profits accruing to the noble owner? The country is not the less enriched because he enriched himself: the district through which that ~~only~~ immense undertaking spreads wealth and plenty, need not repine at the accumulation of treasures, by the duke, to whatever extent; while its own prosperity has kept

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pace with that of his grace, and thousands have reason to congratulate themselves on enjoyments obtained, not from their own exertions, or capital, but from ingenuity and perseverance directed and supported by their sagacious benefactor.

That facilities of conveyance give value to mines of wealth, is a principle now so generally acknowledged and acted on in Britain, that proprietors of lands are desirous of availing themselves to the utmost of such facilities. They cannot bring their estates to the verge of a projected road, they therefore exert themselves, to bring the projected road to the verge of their estates. Hence many conveniences have arisen to the public at large; and the interest of a family in maintaining a bridge, establishing an inn, or accommodations of other kinds for travellers, acts as a standing security for the community on one part, no less than for the family on the other. Where land, by its continuity, affords opportunities of conveyance by roads, and the passage over waters (rivers, &c.) can be effected by bridges, much may be done by the neighbouring districts, towards preserving and increasing intercourse; but where the boisterous ocean intervenes, where extensive shores are lined with rocks or sands, or present danger to the adventurous mariners, the power of the state may be requisite to overcome such obstacles, and to establish all that safety, which consists with the life of a navigator; and more immediately with the expectation of a passenger. A sailor knows that his profession subjects him to hardships: a passenger knows that he has a right to expect to accomplish his purpose, with the least possible hazard, when committing himself to the packet which plies him for his passage. He confides in the public faith for the protection of his person; all therefore, which public faith can accomplish toward rendering that protection effectual, it is the duty of the public, by its agents, to see accomplished.

The western coast of Great Britain may be considered as lying parallel to the eastern coast of Ireland; yet the opportunities afforded of establishing intercourse to a certainty, are not many. The situations of bays, harbours, and ports, on both sides of the channel; of cities, towns, &c. on the shores: the most frequent and powerful courses of the winds, the peculiar qualities of the stations chosen

for established and constant passage, are all to be considered; with that reflection, too, which experience alone can confer, even on practical men. Where the intercourse between merchants by letter is considerable, where the dispatches between the seat of general government, and the government by deputation, are regular, there cannot but be times when the delivery of those letters, or of those dispatches, is of moment. It is wise, therefore, in the rulers of the nation, to take advantage of every opportunity which can be made or improved, in order to ensure the safe and early arrival of such communications at the place of their destination. These are public concerns; but if beside this, the reciprocal exchange of commodities between any two provinces of an empire can be promoted, the empire itself is proportionately strengthened and united. All these advantages are expected from the projected improvements in the roads and ports of the opposite coasts of Scotland and Ireland, which form the subject of the present Report. They are designed to ensure the more certain and speedy execution of public purposes, the more rapid delivery of mercantile correspondence, the greater security of passengers, and the general protection of the intercourse between the shores, with the trade and navigation of the channel. The advantages anticipated by the districts are so inviting, that great interest is made for the formation of new ports, by those who deem the old ports defective: and no less strenuous are the proprietors of the old ports, in their endeavours to repel censure, and retain their privileges. The land-holders in the vicinity are extremely desirous of forming stations for passage on their own estates, and of directing the course of passengers through the properties in which they are interested; well knowing that hereafter their present expences will be repaid, with an hundred fold of interest; and that according to a remark already made, the facilities of conveyance will give value to their wealth, whether that wealth consist in the products of mines, of lands, or of manufacture.

The number of persons that annually passes and repasses between the shores of Scotland and Ireland, by the four established packets, is at this time, not fewer than *ten thousand*:—beside the packets there are eight or ten other vessels, which

navigate backwards and forwards, constantly; it is likely that these carry many more than *ten thousand* persons, as they are more in number than the packets, and they charge less for the passage. This object, then, interests upwards of *twenty thousand* of our fellow subjects. It appears, also, that the north of Ireland exports to the opposite coast, oxen, horses, sheep, hogs, and grain or meal. It imports from the opposite coast, coal, herrings, (cured, we suppose), pottery, slates, machinery, salt, flax-seed, cotton wool, &c. Moreover, if we do not misunderstand the returns from the custom-house at Donaghadee (the Irish port), the trade of that port has greatly increased, within a few years. The number of vessels cleared outwards, with their tonnage was

Year.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1798.....	128.....	5,990
1799.....	98.....	5,265
1800.....	108.....	5,871
1801.....	342.....	17,161
1802.....	700.....	36,998
1803.....	489.....	26,231
1804.....	343.....	16,630
1805.....	507.....	27,602
1806.....	517.....	28,030
1807.....	445.....	24,853

It is to be remarked, that the year 1798 was the year of rebellion and public commotion in Ireland; and 1799 might be expected to partake of the stagnation of commercial affairs, caused by that unhappy event, nevertheless, after adequate allowances are made for the stagnation of that period, there is ample proof of a great increase of vessels and tonnage engaged in the commerce of Donaghadee. It is to be understood, that the colliers which have carried coal from Workington to Belfast, and have quitted that town empty, when returning take in oxen at Donaghadee for Workington.

The north of Ireland beyond Donaghadee and Belfast is the seat of the linen manufacture, the great staple of that island, we may, therefore, easily perceive the necessity of receiving and communicating intelligence from the great mart of Britain, the metropolis. These considerations contribute to heighten the character of importance attached to this line of intercourse, between the two islands. The question, by what means to take all advantages afforded by nature to answer

these purposes, or to supply by the assistance of art advantages nature has withheld, can only be determined by local inspection, and inquiry. This would naturally be directed *first* toward the properties of the sea, in these parts; and *secondly* to what opportunities the land affords of overcoming impediments opposed by the sea. Among the properties of the sea, to be first examined, the *Tides* would occupy a principal place: for on these depends in many cases, the arrival or non-arrival of the mails in time for their being forwarded on the day of their arrival; and we know that, a few hours lost, or won, at sea, determines the delivery of the letters in London, a day sooner, or a day later. This to merchants is of importance: but it might be to government of the utmost importance.

Desirous of drawing closer the bonds of union between the two islands, by reciprocal alliances, and mutual benefits, the public officers of the United Kingdom have caused the opposite shores of both islands to be examined, with intention of discovering ports in which an establishment of packets might be most effectual. And as a second principal branch of this intention, they have caused the inland district to be surveyed, for the purpose of selecting that line of road which shall be most direct, most level, and most convenient.

Mr. Telford, the engineer, appointed to survey this district in pursuance of such purposes, has presented a Report from which we shall offer a few extracts; and this the rather, because the consideration of the requisites for forming a good harbour, may be new to many, or to most of our readers.

In order the more distinctly to report on the various matters connected with the line of communication between the North of England and Ireland, we have found it necessary to class them under the following heads:

I.—The navigation of the channel, and the comparative merits of different harbours.

II.—The construction and management of packets.

III.—The improvement of roads and bridges.

Previous to entering on the description of the harbours, or any discussion respecting their comparative merits, we shall state generally the advantages which, in our opinion, harbours ought to be possessed of, and which are as follows:

1st. Being easy of access, and working out.

2d. Having good security within.

3d. Having good anchorage or roadsteads.

4th. Having bold headlands on each side, easily distinguished from that immediately behind the harbour.

I.—General description of the coast.

It is well known, that the islands of Great Britain and Ireland approach nearest to each other where the shire of Galloway in Scotland, and the county of Down and a part of Antrim in Ireland, form the opposite shores; the channel here, in the narrowest part, not exceeding seven leagues* in breadth, and the coasts from opposite the Mull of Galloway to Port Patrick are nearly parallel to each other. On the Scotch side, immediately to the east of the Mull of Galloway, the extensive bay of Glenluce is formed, and a little to the North of Port Patrick the land recedes to the mouth of Loch Ryan. This shore is bold and rocky, and the water is deep and clean, close to the land. Loch Ryan is a deep inlet, being about ten miles in length, and from one to nearly two in breadth; it lies North and South and approaching towards the head of the bay of Glenluce, forms that district called the Rinds of Galloway, into a peninsula. On the part of the coast facing the shore, there are only the villages of Port Patrick and Port Nessoek. The land here is heathy, and but little cultivated.

On the Irish coast, from the entrance of Strangford Loch to that of Belfast, the lands adjacent to the shore are generally low, the shore itself is flat and rocky, partly in continued ridges and partly in detached lumps, which render it generally dangerous to be approached. The Loch of Belfast is a deep inlet, being about sixteen miles in length and eight miles in breadth at the entrance; it lies W. S. W. and E. N. E. into a fine country. Strangford Loch running up the country towards Belfast as far as Newtown Airds, forms a considerable portion of country to the West of Donaghadee, into a peninsula. On the coast of Antrim, the shores of the island of Magee, next to the channel, are bolder than those to the southwards of Donaghadee, but they are rocky and dangerous to approach. This narrow island or rather peninsula is formed by Loch Larne, which lies N. and S. It is about six miles in length, and a quarter of a mile in breadth at the entrance; its southern end approaches near to the North side of the Loch of Belfast. Immediately to the southward of the entrance of Belfast Loch lie the Copland islands, upon the smallest of which there is a lighthouse.

* The shortest distance marked on the map is 19½ miles.—*Edit.*

Both to the North and South of Donaghadee there are some populous villages: the small town of Bangor is situated on the southern side, and near to the mouth of Belfast Loch, further up on the same side, is the village of Hobywood; the large town of Belfast stands at its upper end, and Carrickfergus on the northern side. The whole of the country adjacent to the shores of the channel and Loch is exceedingly populous, and tolerably well cultivated.

Of Port Patrick.

In 1768, Mr. Smeaton was employed to form the plan of this harbour; it was completed in 1778, and we understand cost from £12,000 to £15,000.

The North Pier (the outer half of which is not founded upon rock) was built of dry stone, and the sea washing through between the joints of it, having removed part of the sand upon which it was founded, appears to have occasioned the stone-work to settle down and bulge out; this gave reason to fear that it would be speedily undermined and fall down. With a view of preventing this, in 1786 a bulwark was built at the back of the pier, which cost £1,200, and having failed, was rebuilt in 1792, at an expence of £1,170; but this was again destroyed in 1801. After this a quantity of large stones were laid down along the back of the pier; but those, excepting a few at the bottom, were soon swept away into the mouth of the harbour. These repairs, including pointing and pinning up the joints of the masonry, cost about £1,400; making together an expence of about £18,000.

The harbour is surrounded with high land to a distance of several miles, and it is so uniform, that in viewing it from the sea, it has the appearance of one continued ridge or table land, *destitute of any strongly marked feature to distinguish the precise situation of the harbour.*

From its very narrow and confined situation, the harbour is approached with considerable risk; for both to the North and South of it, large reefs of rocks run out a considerable way into the sea; a great number of these at high water (and particularly at spring tides) are completely covered. With the wind from S. S. E. to W. N. W. (blowing so as to make it necessary to take in one reef of the mainsail) so great a sea is set in upon the shore as to make it improper to anchor off the harbour, although the ground is good: but anchoring off Port Patrick with the wind from S. to W. N. W. having no hold of the land, a vessel might with equal propriety anchor in any other part of the channel; therefore, with the wind from the above quarter, the packets are under the necessity of keeping off and on until the tide makes,

and when blowing strong from W. S. W. or N. this requires carrying a great press of sail, the coast being then a lee shore, and a heavy swell setting in upon it.

Although Port Patrick is not directly open to a S. S. E. wind, yet from that point it has the whole range of the channel from the isle of Man; and as the harbour mouth is not protected by any headlands, the sea strikes upon the rocks which form the northern side of the entrance, and recoiling upon the other side, creates a very heavy sea in the narrow mouth of the harbour, and likewise quite to the shore on the inside of the pier. The wind at S. blowing strong, sets in a great sea. When we were waiting a passage to Ireland, the wind blowing strong from W. S. W. and fair across the channel from Donaghadee, yet the packet then lying in that place, did not sail, being aware of the danger of approaching the harbour of Port Patrick. Their apprehensions were well founded, for a heavy sea was then breaking right across the harbour, from the one side to the other; therefore in attempting to enter she must, on account of the small space within the harbour, have shortened sail, and run great risk of being struck upon either quarter with a heavy sea, which must have given her a sheer, and probably losing the command of the rudder, she must have gone upon the rocks on the one side or the other. It is therefore perfectly clear, that a packet cannot with any safety come into Port Patrick when the wind is blowing strong from S. W. to W. N. W.

The pier having been placed in a very judicious manner, vessels are very secure when once got fairly into the harbour; the bottom is composed of gravel and small stones. The rise of ordinary spring tides is about 14 feet, that of ordinary neaps from eight to nine feet; but both are much influenced by the winds.

The packets, when lying in Port Patrick with the winds from S. to W. N. W. although moderate, cannot get out, excepting by the aid of a warp laid out about 250 fathoms. An instance of this occurred when we were waiting for a passage to Ireland: the Palmer, McConnel master (being his turn to sail), the wind from W. and moderate, was two hours warping out, and the packet not flating until near high water, the ebbing tide was one-half run on shore before we could make sail; therefore, with the wind from S. to W. N. W. blowing to render it necessary to take one reef in the mainsail, the packets are then shut up, and must not attempt going round the pier-head. Those winds being by far the most prevalent upon the North of Ireland, and the South of Scotland, there being no room in this narrow rocky inlet for any vessel to make a tack, the

harbour from these causes being neither easy of access or working out, having no safe anchorage or roadstead, nor any distinguishing headlands to mark the precise situation; the correct conclusion is, that it is destitute of those advantages requisite for a perfect harbour for the packets to ply from.

This description will impress conviction on fresh water sailors, that they must not bring to the consideration of open sea-ports the same ideas, as those with which they contemplate quays by a river side, or landing places on navigable canals. The turbulent billows of the ocean, as agitated by violent winds, the set of currents, and of tides, the depth of water, the situation of rocks, the appearances of land-marks, and many other particulars demand attention,—an attention to which the utmost talent, enlightened by the most extensive practice, is not more than adequate.

Port Nessock.

This is the only natural bay, between the Mull of Galloway and the entrance of Loch Ryan, whose general form and advantages draw the attention of an impartial observer. A striking instance of this is furnished by the following Report, made previous to any artificial harbour being constructed upon this coast:

“ I, John Adair, geographer for the kingdom of Scotland, having made a survey of the South and West coast of Galloway, and more particularly of that part opposite to Donaghadee and coast of Ireland, do hereby declare, that I did not see a fit and convenient place for making a harbour to shelter ships, packet-boats and other vessels, except the corner of the bay of Port Nessock, where by building a good head or pier, they can lie safe and secure in all weather, and 13 or 14 feet of water in spring tides; the bay also is fit and easy for turning in and out, and for dropping an anchor upon occasion. In testimony whereof I have written and subscribed these presents at Edinburgh, the fourteenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and sixteen years. (Signed) JOHN ADAIR.”

This bay, of which we found the above general testimony to be correctly descriptive, is situated about eight miles North of the Mull of Galloway, and ten South of Port Patrick. The land immediately behind it is low, but that on each side is high, particularly to the southward there is the hill called Barnakorene, which being the highest upon that part of the coast is seen a considerable way at sea, even in a dark night. These circumstances render the place conspicuous, and easy to be made.

The bay is easy of access, and perfectly safe; it is one mile in width at the entrance, gradually narrowing to half a mile at its bottom; the depth is three-quarters of a mile, terminating with a smooth sandy beach; upon each side of the bay the shore is rocky and steep, but there are none [no rocks] but what are seen at low water, and within a few yards of the shore. The bay is open to the W. N. W. winds, which send in a considerable sea, but being well protected by the headlands, which form the entrance, the sea is not greater than that in the open channel; at the entrance there are ten and twelve fathoms, [in depth] decreasing gradually to the shore along the bottom; in the whole of the bay there is the best holding ground upon the Galloway coast; in most places it is sand and clay, mixed together; the most proper roadstead is in seven and eight fathoms.

On the South side a ridge of rocks run out to about eight or nine yards below low-water mark; they lie in a very proper direction for a pier, and would afford an excellent foundation. If a proper pier was constructed at this place, and some of the bottom excavated, the packets might with great facility come to the inside into smooth water with all winds; there might be space obtained for a great number of vessels.

Such are the ports on the Scottish side of the channel: on the Irish side is

Donaghadee.

We have not been able to procure much information respecting the history of Donaghadee, only that towards the constructing the present pier, parliament granted £2,705; that the first grant was made during the sessions of 1775, and that the pier was completed in 1782. The harbour is situated upon a flat rocky shore in the county of Down, about three miles S. S. W. of the Copland lighthouse, and about the same distance from the entrance of Belfast Loch.

From Donaghadee to the southward, as far as Strangford Loch, and the South lighthouse, is a continued range of flat rocky shore; the reefs in many places running a considerable way into the sea, and the land behind being also low and of uniform appearance, renders the approach and landing difficult and dangerous, particularly in dark nights.

To the N. N. E. of Donaghadee lie the Copland islands; the largest is separated from the main land by a sound of about one mile in breadth, which consisting of rocky and foul ground, vessels cannot beat through but at the top of high water; even then small vessels must be well acquainted, to beat through, the channel being very narrow. The small island is half a mile distant from the other, in a N. N. E. direction; the chan-

nel between the two islands, in consequence of rocks, is dangerous, and must not be attempted without being very well acquainted, or having a pilot. Upon this small island stands the lighthouse.

The harbour of Donaghadee is narrow and very confined, in consequence of a large bed of rocks on the North side of it; this renders it dangerous running in even with a fair wind, because at high water, vessels may run upon these rocks, particularly as the space between them and the pier head is so small. The present pier stands in a N. W. direction. The wind at N. N. W. blowing strong, raises a short sea in the harbour, which makes the shipping beat upon each other, and this wind, blowing through the Sound between the Copland island and the main land, has a long fetch.

The tides run nearly North and South, the tide of flood runs to the southward, and is made two hours in shore before it is run in the offing; the tide of ebb differs a little in its direction, and sets off the shore from Donaghadee to the N. E. extremity of the large Copland island, so that it assists in working off the shore. Ordinary spring tides rise here fourteen feet, ordinary neap tides about nine feet.

From the foregoing statement, it appears that Donaghadee, in its present state, is neither easy of access nor working out; that with the wind at N. N. W. there is not good security within; there is no good anchorage or roadstead, and there are no distinguishing high lands on each side of it.

Mr. Telford then proceeds to report on the properties of Loch Larne, Carrickfergus, and Bangor, a port in the Loch of Belfast: all of them harbours or roads in the neighbourhood.

Bangor.

This fine natural bay is situated upon the South side, and a little within the entrance of the Loch of Belfast; it is twelve or thirteen miles from the town of Belfast, and about five miles W. of the Copland lighthouse; the shore on each side of it is clear of rocks or shoals, and about half a mile without the mouth of the harbour is the best roadstead in the Loch of Belfast, the water five, six, and seven fathoms, and the bottom sand and clay mixed.

This bay is very easy of access, and is 250 fathoms in width at the present pier; it is all clear ground, there being no rocks whatever but what are seen, and of those none more than three or four yards from the shore, so that in working, vessels may without risk stand close to each shore. The bottom of the whole of the bay being composed of sand and clay, vessels may anchor in any part of it with perfect safety, and in water sufficient

for the packets. No wind can prevent the packets from working into this place, because those which blow out are smooth-water winds. The bay is open to N. E. winds, and when blowing strong sets in a considerable sea, but it breaks only after it has passed the harbour in shallow water at the bottom of the bay.

The present harbour is by much too confined, and the pier is placed in an improper direction; but by constructing a new pier about 300 feet without the present one, and excavating a sufficient space within it, the packets may (when lying in this new harbour) work out when they can carry a double reefed mainsail, or in other words, when prudent to go to sea. This bay being upon the Loch of Belfast, and near its entrance, the tide runs strong immediately near the harbour's mouth, and vessels are into it as soon as they are out of the bay; the tide with the flood runs nearly West and with the ebb East.

The reporter compares Port Nessock and Bangor with Port Patrick and Donaghadee; first, as ports; secondly, as to what respects crossing the channel; and then submits his opinion on the capacity of improvement of these harbours, and estimates the expences attending such improvements. This part of Mr. Telford's opinion is utterly unintelligible, without the assistance of the magnificent maps and plans which accompany the Report of the Committee; and these we cannot set before our readers: such of them as are interested in the business, will no doubt, obtain every information, in good time.

It may well be supposed, that the recommendation of the surveyors employed by government, to construct two new harbours, one at Port Nessock, the other at Bangor, would not fail to experience opposition from the parties interested in the present ports; accordingly, we find Mr. Hull, the treasurer to the packet company at Donaghadee, expressing his opinion unequivocally that with some improvements that port with Port Patrick, would be fully sufficient for public accommodation, and would answer every purpose, that could be desired. For this opinion he gives his reasons; and certainly the reasons of a gentleman who has been twenty years on the spot, in the discharge of his duty, are entitled to great attention. Among other things he observes,

It is fairly stated, that "Port Patrick lies more immediately in the channel, and pac-

kets are sooner in the tideway than at Port Nessock." The importance of this circumstance in the navigation across channel is well known; and yet the reporters scarcely allude to the influence of the tides, in comparing the navigation from Port Patrick to Donaghadee with that from Port Nessock to Bangor. Nor do I observe a single calculation in their report, as to the probable time required to make a passage between those two latter places either with favourable or unfavourable winds.

He further insists that,

Not a single rock intervenes between Donaghadee and the coast of Scotland; but from Bangor there are directly in the way, the very dangerous and frequently fatal rocks called the Brigs, and the Copland islands, rendered still more dangerous by the infinite number of rapid and counteracting currents that surround them. The safety of the present passage is proverbial, not a single accident has ever occurred thereon; the reason is evident; the course is clear, free from rocks and shoals, and the currents aiding the navigation.

Since the extension of the mail coach from Carlisle to Port Patrick, the arrival of the mail from London at the latter place has been regular, and several hours earlier than formerly, when conveyed on horseback; it now usually arrives there from twelve to one o'clock at noon, and in consequence, the mail has of late very frequently arrived at Donaghadee from three to five o'clock on the evening of the third day from London, and been forwarded to Belfast time enough for the delivery of letters the same evening, a distance of 400 miles in 72 hours, which includes the time requisite for sorting the mail at Donaghadee. Will it be said that this can ever be the case, if the station is changed to Port Nessock and Bangor, after what has been stated on the subject?

It appears that the packets sailed from Donaghadee with the mail 336 days in the year 1807; that they were detained 19 days in the year by contrary winds and other causes stated at Port Patrick, and consequently were prevented sailing from Donaghadee by storms, and every other impediment, only 10 days in the year. Yet Messrs. Telford and M'Kerlie report, "that the harbour is shut up by the winds blowing from one quarter of the compass." !!!

This gentleman is not alone in his opposition to the change of station for the packets: two memorials have been presented against that measure, signed by the Marchioness of Downshire, the Marquis of Hertford, the Marquis of Donegal, the Earl of Moira, the Earl of Stair, the Earl of Galloway, and other principal

proprietors of land in the north of Ireland; by the grand juries of the counties of Down, Antrim, and Armagh, and by many merchants. To counterbalance this, an opinion in favour of Ports Bangor and Nessock is signed by *two hundred and forty* captains and owners of vessels trading from shore to shore. Now what can we say in such a case?—The probability is, that truth lies between these extremes; and, indeed, Mr. Rennie, in his report on the state of Port Patrick, appears to have stated the case very fairly.

The smallness of the present harbour of Port Patrick, and the shallowness of the water, renders its use very limited. Its capability of improvement is considerable; it therefore appears to me, considering the great intercourse that must necessarily take place between this country and Ireland in consequence of the Union, that it would be a great means of facilitating this intercourse, were a good, safe, and commodious harbour to be constructed at this place. Its convenience to such vessels as frequent the Channel, renders it also an object of considerable consequence; it may therefore be worthy the attention of his majesty's ministers to consider how far it ought to be taken up as a national object, and receive that kind of improvement, at the national expence, its importance deserves.

In a maritime state, such as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, too much attention cannot be paid to the improvement of its harbours; and although there are many places which, considered as maritime stations, are not likely to pay an adequate interest for the money expended from the trade of the places themselves, yet, as harbours into which vessels may run for shelter in storms, or when the winds are contrary, they are of the greatest importance to the general trade of these islands. I do not mean to say that Port Patrick can, at any moderate expence, be made a very capacious harbour; but I am of opinion it may be rendered greatly more useful than it is at present, at a moderate expence.

After these clashing opinions, David Kerr, Esq. whose estate lies at Port Avo, (near Donaghadee) insists that *his* port is infinitely better than any one on the Irish shore yet examined: that, if *this* station were chosen for the packets, from Port Avo to Newry might be shortened by eight miles of road; and that an express from Dublin to Port Patrick by Avo might reach its destination in *five or six hours less time* than from any other harbour. In concert with Mr. Kerr is Mr.

McTaggart, who being the proprietor of Ardwell Bay (on the Scottish shore, between Ports Patrick and Nessock), is assured, "by every seaman he has conversed with on the subject," that Ardwell Bay "possesses real advantages over Port Nessock," and justly observes, "it would be a pity, for a few thousand pounds (additional expence) to give up the advantage of sailing from Ardwell with a variety of winds, when you would be fast locked up at Port Nessock." The Committee have very properly recommended further inquiry before this is finally determined.

Expenditure of the public money is often charged with prodigality; and sometimes, no doubt, justly: yet it is but candid to reflect that public works are (generally) of such a description, as implies the existence of difficulties to which private means are incompetent. The power and extent of these difficulties are seldom thoroughly known, till after some kind of experience has revealed them; and this uncertainty *must* operate very disadvantageously against the labours of an architect. If cheapness be consulted, the work may be weak; if durability be ensured, the expences may appear enormous. Whoever has to struggle with the difficulties of a bad foundation on land will find the undertaking sufficiently perplexing: what then shall we think of the situation of that artist who has to contend with the violence of the waves? That violence the pier constructed at Port Patrick has not been able to resist. After having proposed a manner of repairing the injuries, Mr. Rennie expresses himself cautiously on the subject of their cost.

In respect to the *expence of the work* I have recommended, I scarcely know what to say: the uncertainty attending the laying of a foundation in such ground, and eight feet under water, in a great measure puts it out of the power of any man to ascertain it: besides, I have never found it an advisable plan to let the execution of foundations under water by contract, for, *as the whole security of the work depends on the perfect execution of the foundation, a little money saved in such an important point is not a consideration. It is owing to the imperfections of foundations, that the great majority of the piers and bridges in this kingdom have failed.* When they are done by contract, the saving of money is a greater object with the contractors, generally speaking, than the stabi-

lity of the work. My opinion therefore is, that Mr. Rutherford should be allowed to do the whole foundation of this bulwark, up to the level of the ordinary low-water of a neap tide, giving a fair account of the expence, and that he should afterwards contract for what is to do above the said low-water at a specific price. I have every reason to believe, from the manner in which he has undertaken the present work, that he is a man of honesty and integrity, and that he will do justice in the concern.

The most magnificent harbours, the most capacious ports are useless, unless the approaches to them by land are convenient. Every facility that can be offered to vessels in lading or unlading their cargoes is illusory, unless those commodities readily reach the hands of their consumers. A seaport inaccessible on the land side were a subject of ridicule to an extensive kingdom; since the very purpose of bringing goods to its quays is not answered till they be distributed throughout the realm. With still greater reason would a seaport, the principal merit of which is the prompt dispatch of letters from one shore to another, and the speed of reciprocal communication, become a subject of ridicule:—in the minds of those interested, censure would rise to indignation. To render the labours on the shore available, corresponding labours must be exerted in the interior: the roads must be improved: those which lose ground by circuitous courses must be corrected: those which run over hills must be reconsidered, and led along better levels; those which cross rapid rivers must be rendered independent of their floods, by bridges secure, solid, ample, and in the fittest direction. This subject (the improvement of the roads), may be considered as forming a kind of Second Part of this Report. We shall endeavour to communicate some notion of its principal contents.

The proposed improvements commence at the city of Carlisle, and take a westerly direction along the south of Scotland. As we so lately as our last number, explained the general principles and properties of a good road, and what are the requisites to render a road complete, we shall not enlarge on such particulars here; but shall calculate at once the distances shortened, and consequently saved, by the application of those principles, on the road from Carlisle to Port Patrick; the

port hitherto used by the packets on this station. From Carlisle to Annan is now 22 miles; by the proposed road it will be 17 miles; distance saved 5 miles: from Annan to Dumfries, by the present road, is $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles, by a proposed road 15 miles; distance saved $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile: from Dumfries to Newton Stewart, by the present road is 52 miles; by a proposed road 43 miles; distance saved 9 miles: from Newton Stewart to Glen Luce $15\frac{1}{4}$ miles: from Glen Luce the road leads to Stranraer and Port Patrick. We find, then, that in the distance of about 122 miles not less than 16 miles may be saved to the traveller with its attendant expences; and consequently a proportionate quantity of time to the post, and its intelligence.

If the reader will but imagine what improvements on the same principle, might be made in the 35 or 40,000 miles of turnpike road now used in Britain, he will see that the public benefit, connected with these endeavours, is not trivial. If to this time saved be added—expences saved—wear and tear saved—the vexations of travellers saved—with the oaths and curses of coach drivers, and—the labour of coach-horses saved, by such *shortenings*, the whole becomes an aggregate well deserving attention. In fact, we should not wonder to see the distance between Johnny Groat's House and the Land's End, in Cornwall, shortened by more than a hundred miles, without depriving Great Britain of an inch of ground. Our limits forbid us from prolonging this subject: yet as it is one which interests a great number of our readers in the north, and includes considerations proper for general information, we shall insert a part of the sentiments contained in Mr. Telford's Report.

If a harbour is constructed at Port Nessock, Colonel M'Dowall engages to have a road completed from Port Nessock to Glenluce: (14 miles) without requiring any aid from the public.

From Glenluce to Newtown Stewart, a distance of 16 miles, an entirely new road has just been completed, at the expence of the Shire of Galloway, and is made in as good a direction as the nature of the country will admit of.

At Newtown Stewart, the river Cree divides the Shire from the Stewartry of Galloway. This river is of a considerable size, and had formerly a bridge of four arches, each 45 feet span; but this was destroyed by

a flood. Since that time the river has been passed by means of a ferry boat; but this, upon so general a communication, is very inconvenient, and particularly so on account of the great numbers of Irish and Scotch cattle which pass this way to the North of England. The situation of the former bridge was a very improper one for the general thoroughfare; to accommodate this, it ought to be placed a considerable way further down the river, and it ought to be made of larger dimensions, both with regard to length and width. If placed in this new situation, and of enlarged dimensions, the expence will be greatly increased. These two counties having lately exerted themselves in a very uncommon manner, and incurred a very heavy expence in improving the roads which form the general line of communication, and which they engage to complete, this expensive work appears to be a proper object for public aid.

From Newtown Stewart to Dumfries lies an extensive track of country, denominated the Stewartry of Kirkcubright. The road now generally travelled is along the shore by Ferrytown, Gatehouse, and from thence up the country by Castle Douglas, being a distance of 52 miles. Along the whole of this track a new road has been laid out, and is now nearly completed at the expence of the county, and (excepting at the bridge of Dee near to Castle Douglas) it appears to be in as good a direction as the country will admit of.

Another road passes through this district by New Galloway, which is situated in the valley of the Kenn upwards of twenty miles distant from the shore, and this road, excepting for five or six miles, has lately been new made. The distance between Newtown Stewart and Dumfries by this road is about forty-three miles, being nine miles shorter than the former one. Nothing appears wanting to complete this communication, but to execute the before-mentioned five or six miles, which lie immediately to the West of New Galloway. This road passes through a mountainous track of country, which, excepting where it crosses the narrow valley of the Kenn, is very thinly peopled, and appears to be fit only for the pasturage of sheep or black cattle.

There is a third road, more to the South than either of the two former; it is now a tolerably good road, upon the old principles of road making; and surveys have been made out, and a part is already executed upon an improved plan, so as either to avoid the hills, or, where that is impracticable, to render the ascents and descents gradual and easy. This road will pass from Dumfries by Dalbeattie through Kirkcubright to Gatehouse; its length will be nearly the same as the present road by Castle Douglas; it will pass through the best cultivated and most populous part of

the Stewartry; it will likewise pass through Kirkcubright, which is the county town and port, and Dalbeattie, which is also a port for a very considerable district of country. We understand this road will be completed without requiring public aid; but it will be very imperfect without a bridge erected over the river Dee at Kirkcubright; this will be an expensive work, and to accomplish it, public aid will be necessary.

It is evident, that to ensure three roads through this extensive district, it is only necessary that public aid be granted to three bridges, viz. at Newtown Stewart, Old Dee, and Kirkcubright; the competition will then be fair and complete, and the road which, under all circumstances, is best adapted for the public accommodation, will be proved by experience. One matter is certain, that the mere thoroughfare will not support proper inns with a sufficient establishment of horses and carriages, or enable a mail coach to run; market business, the intercourse of the adjacent country, and the travellers of manufacturers who transact business with shopkeepers, are all required; but they can only be found in the most populous parts of this country, and it is therefore on the road which passes through those parts, and the small towns along the coast, when the roads are made equally good, where it is probable that regular accommodation will be found.

From Annan to Carlisle, the present road passes by Longtown upon the Esk, and is twenty-two miles in length; there are several small hills upon it, particularly at Springfield and Stanwix bank, which are very steep. By leaving the present line about one mile to the West of Gretna, crossing the river Esk immediately below the junction of the river Line, and proceeding across the flat heathy plain to Carlisle, a distance of five miles might be saved, and the road be made nearly on a perfect level. By doing this, the distance between Annan and Carlisle would be reduced from twenty-two to seventeen miles, and being without a hill, would be one moderate stage, instead of two as it is at present. This change is so apparent to every person who travels the road, and so necessary an improvement of the general line of communication, it is our duty to mention it thus distinctly, as an object requiring the attention of government; and it is rendered more so, because, as crossing the point of land which lies between the confluence of the rivers Esk and Eden, where there is no great extent of land, and that bounded on two sides by the tideway, and also at the northern extremity of Cumberland, this line, though of great importance for the general thoroughfare, is not of so much for local or county convenience. The county of Cumberland having also, at present, many other expensive im-

provements in hand, this appears to require the utmost limit to which it may appear proper to lend the public aid.

About thirteen miles of new road must be made; there must be a bridge of five arches over the river Esk, and a small one of one arch over the river Sark.

The object which terminates our survey, is the bridge over the river Eden at Carlisle. At present, this river is divided into two streams, over which are two old bridges. The roads from Port Patrick, Glasgow, and Edinburgh unite here, as do also the roads which pass from Scotland and Ireland through the middle and North-western parts of England; the intercourse is therefore very great: and as the number of black cattle from Ireland and Scotland which pass this way are also very great, these very narrow bridges with low imperfect parapets, have long been complained of as particularly dangerous; for as they are only about twelve feet in width between the parapets, no two carriages can pass each other without danger of being crushed to pieces, or pushed over the parapets: it is even dangerous for horses or foot passengers to pass a carriage or cart. It has therefore become very urgent that a new bridge, of proper dimensions, should be erected at this place. This would best be accomplished, by building only one bridge over the northernmost stream, and turning the whole of the southernmost stream into it; some considerable embankments will be required for this purpose, and also for carrying the road from the South end of the new bridge across the plain and the southernmost stream towards the city.

From these latter considerations it appears, that the southern district of the kingdom, and even the metropolis itself, is concerned in the accommodation proposed to the passage by the erection of this new bridge at Carlisle: for, we know, that not a few of the cattle which pass the river Eden are brought to London for the supply of the city. This is the best principle on which government can act: general good accomplished by means of local benefits. The expence to a citizen of London can scarcely be a shilling; nor to any person between Carlisle and London; yet will such persons, and others, wherever these cattle are distributed, be enabled to obtain their beef with greater readiness, and consequently with greater cheapness.

To conclude, we observe that by combining the advantages to be derived from a prompt communication with Ireland—to government,—to the commercial world,—

to travellers, and—to labouring animals—with the encouragement given to agriculturists by offering them additional facilities in disposing of their productions; and the more steady supply of distant markets; we presume that we present objects of sufficient importance to justify (what never must be lost sight of) the exertion and the expence. Mr. Telford presents the following

Abstract of the Expence.

Bridge over the river Eden at Carlisle, with the necessary embankment..	£. 20,114
Bridge over the river Esk at Garistoun..	6,880
Bridge over the river Sark near Gretna	1,056
Bridge over the river Dee at Dee Village, near Castle Douglas	2,918
Bridge over the river Dee at Kirkcudbright	8,460
Bridge over the river Cree at Newtown Stewart, with the avenues leading to the same	6,982
Repairing and improving the harbour of Port Patrick	3,120
Constructing a new harbour at Port Nessock	8,392
Warping Buoys at Donaghadee	140
Constructing a new harbour at Bangor	19,151
	<hr/> £77,214

For these purposes, we have reason to expect that there will be readily contributed:

Towards Carlisle bridge, one-half by the County of Cumberland	£. 10,057
Dee Village bridge, ditto, by the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright	1,459
Kirkcudbright ditto, by the town of Kirkcudbright, Lord Selkirk and others	4,230
Newtown Stewart ditto, by the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, and Shire of Galloway	3,490
Port Nessock, by Colonel M'Dowall.	3,000
Bangor, by Colonel Ward and others.	5,000
	<hr/> £27,236

If this sum is deducted from the total of £77,214 it leaves £49,978 to be advanced by government; and as five years would be required to carry these works into execution, a payment of £10,000 annually for this period, would enable the whole of these improvements to be carried into effect, and would render this important communication much more safe, easy and expeditious.

We hinted in our last number, that the maps and plans accompanying this Report are on a magnificent scale; and certainly they surpass any thing of the kind heretofore presented to Parliament: several of

them exceed three feet in length. It gives us the greatest pleasure to witness this attention to the wants of our legislators, who cannot, from the nature of the thing, have inspected these communications, in person.—With intention, therefore, of conducing to the perfection of future works of the same kind, we beg leave to hint at deficiencies felt by us in contemplating the present collection.

The first is, that the names of places mentioned in the evidence, do not *all* appear on the map. For instance, "Port Abo," at which Mr. Kerr would have the station for packets, is not marked: it is true, that the course of the shore forming this port is laid down; but there being no name annexed to it, gentlemen who are not so much in the habit of examining maps as we are, may not distinguish it. "Lady Bay," in Loch Ryan, is not marked; yet this was "mentioned to Mr. Telford as a convenient place for the packets, and for other purposes." "Corseil Point," is mentioned in Mr. T.'s account of Lady Bay; yet it is not named in the map. Where comparisons are instituted between places, *all* should be attended to, that a proper judgment may be formed—not by the party who has surveyed them, but—by those who never saw them, yet must needs decide on their rival pretensions: till this scrupulous accuracy be adopted, the best possible evidence is not before the court.

A second deficiency is that of omitting the mountains and other elevations of the country. Any one not used to maps would suppose, that a road might be made as he would lay a ruler, *straight from place to place*. We know, that in practice this is impossible: but of that impossibility there is no evidence, unless the impediments be marked: we may guess at them by the courses of the rivers; but why reduce British legislators to their guesses?

The present report, and state of this patriotic undertaking is not only honourable to the Committee by whom it is drawn up, but to the statesmen who planned it, and to the legislature which patronizes such exertions. It will impart peculiar gratification to the representatives of the Irish part of the United Kingdom; as it demonstrates the co-operation of both islands for reciprocal advantages.

The Committee, to whom "the Report, together with the Surveys, Estimates, and Plans, made by Thomas Telford and others, by the order of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, for facilitating and improving the Communication between England and Ireland, from the City of Carlisle, by the North-west of Scotland," were referred; and to examine the Matter thereof; and who were empowered to report their Observations and Opinion thereupon to the House;—Have come to the following Report.

The Committee having proceeded to the investigation of the various matters contained in the Report and Surveys referred to them, and in order to obtain farther information respecting those subjects, have required the attendance of several Persons before them, whom they have examined; and whose Examinations, together with the said Report, and such other papers and documents thereby referred, as appears to them most material, they have annexed by way of Appendix to this Report.

The Committee find that since the said Report, the Bridge at *New Galloway*, the nearest line of road from Dumfries, has been carried away.

It appears to the Committee, that the making and building the several Roads and Bridges mentioned in the said Report, from the City of Carlisle to Port Patrick, and also the said Bridge over the river Kenn near New Galloway, will be a great Public benefit and advantage, by facilitating and improving the Communication between those places; as one of the lines of Road will be near nineteen miles less, many hills will be avoided, and above thirteen hours saved in travelling, by the avoiding such hills, and the building of Bridges where there are now only Ferries. But it appears to the Committee, that such Bridges cannot be built without Public aid.

It also appears to the Committee, that the making such Bridges and Roads, improving the Harbours, and facilitating the Communication between *Scotland and Ireland*, have been under the consideration of His Majesty's Government since 1802; and that various Memorials have been presented and applications made to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, by the Noblemen, Gentlemen, Merchants and others of Great Britain and Ireland, stating the great Public advantages which would arise therefrom, and praying that the same might be carried into execution.

The Committee find, that no private subscriptions or aid can be procured for the building the Bridges over the river Esk at

Garistown and Sark, which separates England and Scotland, mentioned in the said Report and Surveys; and as such Bridges will save one stage and one day's march for Troops, the Committee recommend that the same should be built according to Mr. Telford's Plans, and the expences borne and paid by the Public; provided proper Roads leading to and from the same are effectually made and kept in repair by the counties or individual proprietors of lands through which the same will pass.

The Committee also recommend that the Bridges over the river Eden at Carlisle, the river Dee at or near Castle Douglas, and over the river Cree at or near Newton Stewart, should be built, according to the Plans of Mr. Telford; and that the Bridge over the Kenn at or near New Galloway, should also be rebuilt, according to proper Plans and Estimates hereafter to be made by order of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury; and also that a new Road from Glenluce to Port Patrick through the valley, should be made, by which four miles in eighteen would be saved, besides avoiding hills; and it appears that such last-mentioned Bridges and Roads cannot be built or made without Public aid: the Committee recommend that one-half of the expence of building and making such last-mentioned Bridges, and the whole of the expence of making the said Road from Glenluce to Port Patrick, be paid by the Public, provided the other half of the expences of making the said Bridges is borne and paid by the counties or persons interested therein; and that they do keep the same Bridges in proper repair, and also the Roads leading to and from the same. And with respect to the Bridge stated in Mr. Telford's Report as proper to be built at Kirkcudbright, we recommend that farther enquiries should be made respecting the distance and utility of making the same, and also an accurate admeasurement of the different lines of Road from Carlisle to Port Patrick.

With respect to the improving and making new Harbours on the coasts of Scotland and Ireland, for facilitating the passage between the two Kingdoms, it appears to the Committee to be of very great Public importance, and that the passage between the two Kingdoms would be greatly facilitated and accelerated by the improvement of the harbours of Port Patrick and Donaghadee, and also by additional harbours at Port Nessock and Bangor, mentioned in Mr. Telford's Report, or at Ardwell and Port Avo, or some other port or place near the harbours of Port Patrick and Donaghadee. But as there appears to the Committee that a diversity of opinion prevails respecting the

making new harbours, and that sufficient information has not been obtained on that subject, the Committee are of opinion that farther Surveys of that part of the coast, as well as the harbours of Port Patrick and Donaghadee, should be made by experienced nautical men as well as Civil Engineers, before any new Harbours are made, and to require their opinions of any great improvements to either of the harbours of Port Patrick or Donaghadee. But the Committee do not hesitate to give their opinion, that the repair approved of, and ordered by the Lords of His Majesty's Treasury to be made to the harbour of Port Patrick, should be immediately carried into effect; and also that the Buoys, recommended by Mr. Telford's Report to be fixed near the harbour of Donaghadee, should be immediately placed there.

It appears, that a great saving in distance as well as time might be saved, by making a new Road from near Catterick Bridge to Carlisle along the valleys, as all or the greater part of the steep hills upon Stainmoor and elsewhere along the present Road might be avoided: the Committee therefore recommend that a Survey should be made of the said line of Road, and an Estimate of making the same, by the order of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

Historic Anecdotes and Secret Memoirs of the Legislative Union between Great Britain and Ireland. By Sir Jonah Barrington, one of his Majesty's Council [Counsel] at Law, Judge of the High Court of Admiralty of Ireland, and Member of the late Irish Parliament for the cities of Tuam and Clogher. Part I. royal 4to. pp. xlii. 326. Price 11. 1s. Robinson. 1809.

THAT much obscurity has involved the affairs of Ireland, and that the true cause of discontent among the people of that island, is but little understood, even by the best informed in Britain, is unhappily true beyond contradiction. For several centuries, mutual crimination has been the delight of the parties prevalent among the people. While one leader has charged home the guilt of oppression and cruelty on his opponents, they in their turn have accused him and his adherents of turbulence and sedition. To take a modern view of this subject, is doing little or nothing toward understanding it. To go back to the days of the Earl of Essex and Tyrone, is to open a long vista

of not very sightly objects. The question of religion with all its embarrassments contributes to increase the confusion ; and what should be the animating principle of brotherly affection, becomes the ever flowing source of obloquy and odium. If these unhappinesses were novelties, we might hope that their power would abate, and gradually expire as time imposed silence on the parties aggrieved : but while they can plead prescription, and long establishment, a kind of right of existence seems to follow ; not from justice or equity, nor from prudence or propriety, but from antient usage : from custom long before the memory of man. If it were possible that the waters of Lethe could be imported, and drunk by both parties, Christians though we be, we should incline to recommend the memory-suspending draught : but the Irish nation never was fond of water drinking : claret or whiskey is more to its taste. What then remains ?—we must face the resentment of both parties in the execution of our duty, and boldly claim for *those*, that liberty of private judgment and personal satisfaction of conscience in religious matters, of which no man ought to be deprived, or indeed can be deprived, by political imposition :—while for *these*, we claim the candid opinion of their adversaries, the favourable interpretation of their actions ; with a renunciation of the opinion that Ireland has been oppressed, from motives of envy ; and that the talents of those in high station, have been constantly directed to repel that prosperity, which their duty bound them to promote by every mean in their power. What ! has there been no instance of a conscientious, well-meaning governor of Ireland, during the lapse of ages ? Has every deputy, who while in Britain was marked as a man of merit, of humanity, of benevolence, of feeling,—has every such deputy exchanged his natural character when landed on the Irish soil, and become an idiot, cruel, implacable, tyrannical ? Has that island in which no venomous reptile breathes, and which claims exemption from the serpent's sting,—that island which boasts of this distinction, has it the property of infusing into the hearts of all its governors, without exception, directly as they have crossed the Irish sea, a venom of properties infinitely worse than those of the serpent ; a

malice, an animosity, a rancour a determination to do evil, a delight in the misery of a whole people committed to their charge ? Such a character formerly, was restrictively applied to Beelzebub : to whom besides it may now be applied, let the groans of Europe proclaim : we shall not easily be persuaded that it has justly been attached to any Briton ; or that a metamorphosis so unnatural has passed on any of our countrymen who have had the honour of representing British benevolence in our sister island.

We are old enough to remember the parliamentary campaigns, of most of the distinguished Irish speakers : we can recollect with what vehemence, every action of government was arraigned ; the evils imputed to it ; those with which the then present system was pregnant ; the miseries felt ; the miseries feared ; with the legitimate and logical conclusion that things could not be worse than they were ! all was lost : a wreck ! a ruin ! —To the simple comprehension of a mind not endowed with extraordinary talents, it might seem natural to conclude that under such circumstances, any change must be for the better ; every attempt to introduce a new order of things must be beneficial as an experiment, and might be happy in its result. To minds of higher endowments, it seems this inference is completely erroneous. Sir Jonah Barrington in the work before us, declares that the experiment has failed, to contempt and execration ; and he demands the re-installation of the Irish parliament with all its *independence* ! Has Swift rightly described that assembly in his Legion-Club, as a bear garden, a Tyburn ? and when he says,

Could I from the building's top
Hear the rattling thunder drop,
While the devil upon the roof
(If the devil be thunder-proof)
Should with poker fiery red
Crack the stones and melt the lead,
Drive them down on every skull,
While the den of thieves is full ;
Quite destroy the harpies' nest ;
How might then our isle be blest !

Is the reverend writer correct ?—Either this censure was unfounded, and therefore it was criminal, or an attempt at amelioration must be laudable. But Swift was one who, with Sir Jonah Barrington, described Ireland as the seat of oppres-

sion;—and therefore *he must have been in the right.*

The sufferings of Ireland, says Britain, have another origin. Superstition is the mill-stone that hangs around the neck of the lower class of her population. Ignorance is the cause of their debility. Prejudice blinds their eyes, even to the virtues of those who do not think as they do; and the miserable dogma, *extra Ecclesiam non datur salus*, paralyses what efforts they otherwise *would* make to render themselves agreeable companions in the journey of life. For let it not be thought these evil qualities are inherent in the Irish character: the Irish have many excellencies on which they may justly value themselves, even now; they are open-hearted, hospitable, generous, sociable, brave, and intelligent:—what then would they be, were it possible to part the dross from the ore, by a moral parting, to produce the pure gold free from superstition, ignorance, and prejudice; from the suddenness of passion, and the instant explosion of resentment. When that happy time shall come in which knowledge shall introduce placidity, and Christianity supply meekness, in which the clergy shall enforce the moral virtues, and the people exemplify them in their practice, in which the habit of reflection shall allow Consideration her due sway in the *cool* and cautious formation of opinion, then will the natives of this island be distinguished among men; and then will those complaints vanish of which at present we hear but too often and too much.

Sir Jonah proposes to give the *secret* history of the Union of Great Britain and Ireland. The attempt is of a very delicate nature. The author acknowledges that he opposed the plan with all his vigour: that he never was reconciled to it, and that he now hates it more than ever. He thinks himself fortunate in having obtained *documents* of importance on the subject. Talents, assuredly, he brings to the undertaking. We anticipate, therefore, an able exhibition of the arguments and observations furnished on one side of this great national question: for, as to documents, information and explanation, obtained from the supporters of the other side of it, our hopes of abundance are not very sanguine. Nevertheless, *some* light will be cast on it: and whenever by

the publication of other papers the present shall become subjects of comparison, posterity will be wiser than we are;—which is much to be acknowledged by reviewers.

The work opens with an address to the Prince of Wales: this is succeeded by 38 pages of prefatory observations, from which we learn that the contents have been long in a course of preparation, and that the suspension of their publication has been advantageous:—that the author proposes to enlighten the British nation on the critical state of Ireland, on the character of the people, the *capabilities* of the soil, and the natural produce of the island.

The people of Great-Britain, says Sir Jonah, have long been deceived with respect to the state of Ireland: the deception can last no longer; the crisis is arrived, and that country must be known: her real state should no longer be accredited from the mere assertions of a minister, or her dearest interests decided by a question of adjournment:—the consideration of her case has become identified with the security of the empire; and every subject who regards that security, and loves the connexion, should lend all their [his] efforts to protect it from dangers so imminent and so extensive.

The Union between Great-Britain and Ireland, though alleged to have been enacted for the purpose of securing the tranquillity of the empire, and the consolidation of its resources, does not appear as yet to have effected any of those extraordinary advantages which were looked to from its adoption; and after nearly ten years of trial, its success has completely failed. One country is doubtful of its utility; the other is certain of its mischiefs. The loss of a resident parliament becomes every day more injurious to Ireland; and, even defective as it was, its absence is deplored by the nation as the departure of an old friend, or the death of a protecting patron.

Sir Jonah acknowledges that the Catholic question has long agitated the Irish nation, and is closely implicated in his subject. He reprobates the "*culpable* and *deceptive*" intercourse of the Catholic leaders with the Marquis Cornwallis, in 1799 and 1800—their unbounded credulity, and his unbounded dissimulation." A note on this page is still more severe on the character of the Marquis. Those who loved that character will read it with indignation.

But, because Sir Jonah's statement militates directly against certain considera-

tions in reference to Ireland which we lately submitted to our readers [for the papers that formed the basis of those considerations we were indebted to one of the most conspicuous of Irish characters], we shall attach ourselves more particularly to his remarks on the commercial condition of that part of the United Kingdom.

Great-Britain should recollect, that the profusion of public money, which the conduct of continental wars draws from the United Treasury, is now pressing so heavily on Ireland, that the sum demanded from her towards supporting the ARMY alone, amounts to nearly the WHOLE of her ordinary revenue.

Now that it has become habitual to Britain to subsidize not only mendicant states but powerful empires—Ireland is called upon to provide a considerable proportion [2-17th's] of all those millions which every British minister may think proper to lavish; though the twentieth part of those subsidies, if granted to Ireland herself, would raise her to the highest pitch of domestic prosperity. With means to assist in the encouragement of her manufactures, to facilitate her foreign commerce, to improve her ports, to intersect her mountains with roads, and her vallies with canals, to improve and cultivate the minds and morals of the people by appropriate education, to promote their industry by public institutions, and to complete her happiness, by purchasing up the heaviest of all her grievances, *tithes*—Ireland, by an energetic and willing co-operation, would contribute more towards preserving the British empire, than England can ever accomplish by profusely squandering her millions on those distracted countries, which she can only call her allies until some decisive battle, or some artful treaty, converts the purchased friend into the audacious enemy.

The debt of Ireland, by imperial wars and foreign subsidies, is becoming enormous, AND HER RESOURCES KEEPING NO PACE WITH HER EXPENDITURE. The extensive commerce of England furnishes her with abundant wealth, while the INCONSIDERABLE TRADE of Ireland is inadequate to supply means even for her OWN EXPENSES.

Thus Ireland advances NOT SLOWLY towards her financial ruin; it will therefore be just that the British nation should be informed, that the struggles which Ireland is now making are far BEYOND HER PRESENT MEANS.

Has Sir Jonah given any *Tables* in proof of these assertions? No; but that defect we shall endeavour to meet in another article. At present, we only desire the reader to reconcile this deterioration

of Ireland with the author's description of that country in another passage. After noticing her geographical situation, natural and inexhaustible advantages, &c. he says:

The population of Ireland is *great and PROGRESSIVE*. Above *five millions* of a brave, and hardy race of men are, seen scattered through the fields, or *swarming in the villages*. A VAST REDUNDANCY OF GRAIN, and INNUMERABLE FLOCKS AND HERDS, should furnish to them not only the source of trade, but every means of comfort.

Dublin, the second city in the British empire, though it yields in extent, yields not in architectural beauty to the metropolis of England. For some years previous to the Union, *its progress was EXCESSIVE*. The locality of the parliament—the residence of the nobility and commons—the magnificence of the vice-regal court—the active hospitality of the people, and the increasing commerce of the port, all together gave a brilliant prosperity to that splendid and luxurious capital.

O most miserable and impoverished people! a people whose population is great and progressive, whose grain is vastly redundant, whose flocks and herds are innumerable, whose commerce is increasing, and whose metropolis may vie in beauty and ornament, in luxury and splendour, with the capital of the empire! O most miserable and impoverished people!

Do we then differ from the spirited author in every thing relating to his country? No; and to shew that we do not, we insert his account of the manner of letting *tithes*—that perpetual source of Irish grievances, that constant theme of conflict between priest and priest.

The protestant clergyman generally lets his *tithes* to a proctor, or farmer, the wealthy parishioners rent *theirs* from the proctor upon *reasonable terms*, which prevents their interference. The remaining *tithe*s of the parish, being those of the peasants, are then advertised to be *canted* (a sort of auction) at some alehouse; the bidding commences at night, frequently so late as eleven or twelve o'clock: the proctor (and in some instances the rector) superintends the sale, each cottager's *tithe* is set up distinctly, and every bidder, according to the liberality of his advance, gets a glass or two of strong whiskey to encourage him; the cottager's pride to purchase his own *tithe* increases with his inebriety; puffers are introduced, the sale raised, and, when the cottager is at length declared the buyer, a promissory note is drawn for him; he, being *totally illiterate* puts his mark to

it, and when he awakens next day from intoxication, he is informed of the nature of his purchase. This *cant* generally lasts several nights. The cottager (if not punctual) is then served with a law process called a writ bill, for the amount of the note; a decree, with costs, of course, issues against him; and the blanket (his children's covering,) or the potatoes (his only food) are sold to pay the expences of the proceeding.—The attorney and proctor understand each other, the costs of recovering a crown often exceeding a guinea;—and a catholic peasant, instead of a tenth, frequently yields the *whole* of his scanty, miserable crop, to support a pastor of the protestant establishment. Unable either to bear or counteract the oppressions of the tithe proctors, the beggared peasant becomes discontented, gradually riotous, and at length desperate, and the catastrophe generally concludes by the parishioners (illegally) cutting the proctor's ears off, and the proctor (according to law) hanging the parishioners.

This publication, as our readers will observe, is but the first of a series: its principal contents is the character of the late Earl of Clare, which has cost Sir Jonah uncommon pains to compose, and, if we are not mistaken, he has even set the press for it more than once. A specimen will enable our readers to judge on the spirit with which this portrait is executed.

In council, Lord Clare—rapid, peremptory and overbearing—regarded promptness of execution, rather than discretion of arrangement, and piqued himself more on expertness of thought, than sobriety of judgement. Through all the calamities of Ireland, the mild voice of conciliation never escaped his lips; and when the torrent of civil war had subsided in his country, he held out no olive, to shew that the deluge had receded.

Acting upon a conviction, that his power was but co-existent with the order of public establishments, and the tenure of his office limited to the continuance of administration, he supported both with less prudence, and more desperation, than sound policy or an enlightened mind should permit or dictate; his extravagant doctrines of religious intolerance created the most mischievous pretences for his intemperance in upholding them; and, under colour of defending the principles of one revolution, he had nearly plunged the nation into all the miseries of another. Though he intrinsically hated a Legislative Union, his lust for power, induced him to support it, the preservation of office overcame the impulse of conviction, and he strenuously supported that measure after having openly avowed himself its enemy; its completion, however,

blasted his hopes, and hastened his dissolution. The restlessness of his habit, and the obtrusiveness of his disposition, became insupportably embarrassing to the British cabinet—the danger of his talents as a minister, and the inadequacy of his judgement as a statesman, had been proved in Ireland:—he had been an useful instrument in that country, but the same line of services, which he performed in Ireland, would have been ruinous to Great Britain, and Lord Clare was no longer consulted.

Thus the Union effected, through his friends, what Ireland could never accomplish through his enemies—his total overthrow. Unaccustomed to controul, and unable to submit, he returned to his country, weary, drooping, and disappointed; regretting what he had done, yet miserable that he could do no more; his importance had expired with the Irish Parliament, his patronage ceased to supply food for his ambition, the mind and the body became too sympathetic for existence, and he sunk into the grave, a conspicuous example of human talent, and human frailty.

Thus fell one of the most distinguished personages of the British empire. In his person he was about the middle size, slight, and not graceful—his eyes, large, dark, and penetrating, betrayed some of the boldest traits of his uncommon character—his countenance, though expressive and manly, yet discovered nothing, which could deceive the physiognomist into an opinion of his magnanimity, or call forth an eulogium on his virtues.

We heartily wish the continuation of this work. It will form, we doubt not, a valuable appendage to our historical collections. Read with caution, it will do good. The bias of the author's mind is too evident to mislead; and we impute it to mere calumny that the censorious recollect his visit to London, a sessions or two ago, and applied to the object of his journey the poet's admonition on a different subject:

He comes too near, who comes to be denied.

Six well executed and very characteristic portraits are annexed to this first part: the whole work is splendid; in paper, typography, and talent.

Effets du Blocus Continental, &c. Effects of the Blockade of the Continent against British Commerce; on the Commerce, the Finances, the Credit, and the Prosperity of the British Islands. By Sir Francis d'Ivernois. Second Edition. 8vo. pp. 140. Price 5s. Dulau. London, 1809.

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THE Irish nation, has been charged with a propensity for suddenly drawing conclusions from premises imperfectly considered. The cause is, a rapidity in the exercise of talent, in which imagination imposes on intellect. Speaking as politicians, our advice to our brethren of that part of the United Kingdom, is, *Festina lente*; or in the language of an English proverb, "Make no more haste than good speed." We have seen that Sir Jonah Barrington complains of the *impoverishment* suffered by Ireland in consequence of the Union! the *stagnation* of Irish commerce! We did not deny that we felt a little piqued at this contradiction to our statements on a former occasion*; and we now support those statements by epitomizing a particular investigation of the subject; which forms a principal article of the pamphlet before us.

Those conversant with the arrangement of great affairs, know that their progress is impeded by numerous obstacles. To plan, to give orders, to urge performance, is very different from the actual execution of a project. Even the intention to facilitate the intercourse between the north of Ireland and Scotland has occupied some years, before the Reports, (to say nothing of the works themselves) have made their appearance. The Committee of the Hon. House of Commons observe, that this subject was taken under the consideration of his majesty's government in 1802 (soon after the Union); but Mr. Telford's Report is dated March 1808.—"Six years elapsed, during which, the impoverishment of Ireland has augmented, unheeded by Britain!"—No; Britain has done her duty, by instituting surveys: when benefits are to be *perpetual*, think nothing of a few years employed in preparations to execute well the necessary works.

Sir Francis d'Ivernois is known to the public, as a writer who maintains the opinion that the war of commercial edicts waged by Buonaparte, must terminate in favour of the British interests: and so far we hope and trust his conclusions are correct. To what extent it may prove at the same time, prejudicial to the continent, and to France, especially, we do not affect to predict: and we have no Public Reports, by which to be guided.

* Compare Panorama, Vol. VII, p. 193.

It is nevertheless, true, that the withholding of Reports from the public, by the ministers of Buonaparte, is an argument that they have nothing flattering to communicate: and this is strengthened by the fact, that they *did* report, with exultation, in the year 1807, when the revenue of the French customs was stated at 60 millions of francs, (about 2½ millions sterling) being two millions of francs (say £80,000) above that of the year preceding: but in 1808, the produce of this part of the revenue is *concealed*, being mingled with another, the salt duty:—by deducting this salt duty, we find the produce of the customs reduced to 45 millions of francs;—a *deficiency* of 15 millions of francs (say £600,000) for that year. The vacillations in the councils of Holland on the conduct of the Custom House, prove that the severities of continental edicts, are felt by that nation, in its commerce; and the confessions of King Louis, on the embarrassments of his situation, with that of the people, lead us to infer, that the steps taken by Buonaparte, retrograde from the attainment of his object.

But we quit with pleasure the regions of inference for those of certainty: and passing the comments of Sir Francis on the commercial condition of Britain, (which he deems rather *stationary* than retrograde), we direct our attention to what concerns Ireland in particular.

By referring to page 204 of this volume, it will be seen that in 1784 the *official* value of the exports of Ireland was £3,400,049; but in 1794 it was £4,665,162: in 1804 it was £4,770,388: the *real* value in 1803 was £8,276,817: in 1809 it was £12,577,517. By what rule of arithmetic, Irish or English, this statement indicates a *decrease* of commerce, we are completely at a loss to determine. If it be said, this surprising increase of exports was occasioned by debts of which Ireland was making payment:—we answer, that the *imports* also are increased from £6,087,741 in 1803, to £7,129,507 in 1809. Which of these branches of commerce, then, stagnates, or decays? We acknowledged our inability to gratify our readers with a statement of the particulars of the increase from 8 to 12: Sir Francis has accomplished this, in part; and we depend on his authority for the following tables.

TABLE OF IMPORTATION INTO IRELAND, during the last Twelve Years;—shewing the principal articles: also shewing 1. The medium of three years prior to the Union; ending March 25, 1799.—2. The medium of three years previous to the Berlin decree; ending Jan. 5, 1807.—3. The amount of the importations of 1808, during which the blockade projected by Buonaparte was in its utmost vigour.—4. Their increase since the Blockade.—5. Their increase since the Union.

This table is extracted from the registers of the Irish Custom House: and shews the weights, measures, and quantities of every article; and the real value when that alone is mentioned.

The Irish Hogshead is 63 gallons.—The cwt. is 112 lbs.—The ton of wine is four hogsheads.

INCREASE.		Medium of 3 Years ending March 25, 1799.	Medium of 3 Years ending January 5, 1807.	Importa- tions in 1808.	Increase since the Blockade.	Increase since the Union.
PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.						
Hemp.....	Hhds.	114	124	465	340	351
Trefoil.....	Cwt.	3289	6768	9432	2663	6142
Garden Seeds.....	lbs.	38174	138962	141282	2320	103108
Coal.....	Tons.	371922	442461	583516	141055	211593
Iron in bars.....	Cwt.	205730	242854	328012	85157	122281
Ditto wrought.....	Value £.	60534	176199	249373	73174	188839
Indigo.....	lbs.	85486	114392	119640	5248	34154
Dyeing drugs.....	Value £.	4006	12568	17497	4928	13490
Iron liquor.....	Galls.	16544	41998	51605	9607	35061
Cotton wool.....	Cwt.	10983	17782	22620	4837	11636
Cotton spun.....	lbs.	460013	1223081	1486880	263799	1026867
Wool spun.....	lbs.	1547	38404	259431	221027	257884
Salt, white.....	Bushel	596149	529323	866441	337118	270291
Ditto rock.....	Tons.	16774	27414	26602		9828
Hops.....	Cwt.	16451	23471	28841	5369	12389
Molasses.....	Cwt.	597	1072	13089	12017	12491
Wine of Portugal, Madeira, Spain, France, and Rhenish.....	Tons.	4436	5939	6960	1020	2523
Coaches, &c.....	Value £.	5771	18051	30517	12465	24746
Carpets.....	Ells.	51450	133255	187923	54668	136472
Muslins, Indian and British, white or stained.....	Ells.	49599	63982	75913	11931	26313
Silk ribbands.....	lbs.	1090	1754	2676	921	1586
Ditto stuffs.....	lbs.	5147	9364	12736	3372	7589
Broad cloth.....	Value £.	18790	55073	58414	3340	39623
Jewellery.....	ditto.	1400	4428	10084	8684	5656
Instruments of music.....	ditto.	1911	9911	16782	6870	14870
Furniture.....	ditto.	2943	7029	14739	7709	11796
Looking-glasses.....	ditto.	1637	3895	6530	2635	4892
Badlery.....	ditto.	4209	8841	10543	1702	6334
Sugar-candy, refined, clayed, and raw.....	Cwt.	211209	245388	447404	202016	236194
Tea.....	lbs.	2260600	3914381	3706771		1446
Spirits, brandy, gin, and rum.....	Galls.	121248	293843	1052968	759124	931719
Pepper.....	lbs.	103659	117324	196544	79220	92885
Mustard.....	lbs.	89326	145663	173087	27424	83761
Mercery.....	Value £.	14619	84780	109210	14430	94591
Coarse woollens.....	Ells.	1562203	2233947	3078100	844162	1515997
Cotton stuffs.....	Value £.	124662	141655	228579	86924	103917
Stockings of silk, cotton, wool and thread.....	Pairs.	318685	523496	739775	207279	412090
Window-glass, boxes.....	No	6003	12974	15833	2859	9830
Cutlery.....	Value £.	12144	31554	45422	13867	33277
Pottery.....	ditto.	26612	56441	90423	43981	63810
Hats.....	No.	10827	73899	110488	36589	99661
Clothes.....	Value £.	5749	19607	33150	13442	27400
Woollen blankets.....	No.	11615	46374	100704	54330	89089
DECREASE since the Blockade.						
PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.						
Linseed.....	Hhds.	39730	52661	21785		
Silks and organzines, European and Asiatic.....	lbs.	65263	81306	44363		
Hemp, raw.....	Cwt.	30583	20650	6019		
Tobacco.....	lbs.	7410863	5650369	3979751		
Timber.....	Tons.	10754	17923	8775		
Oak bark.....	Barrels.	107485	159268	134041		26556
Ashes, soda, potash,.....	Cwt.	92922	116906	107281		14359

TABLE OF EXPORTATIONS FROM IRELAND, during the last Twelve Years.

The barrel of salted meat weighs 200 lbs.—the barrel of wheat 280 lbs.—that of barley 224 lbs.—that of oats 196 lbs.—The ton of soda is 20 cwt.—the quarter of turnip seed is 8 bushels—the stone of wool weighs 16 lbs.—the cwt. is 112 lbs.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES.		Medium of 3 Years ending March 25, 1799.	Medium of 3 Years ending January 5, 1807.	Importa- tions in 1808.	Increase since the Blockade.	Increase since the Union.
Linen cloth	Ells.	36174402	41857773	43904382	2046609	7729980
Mixtures of linen and cotton...	Value £.	19833	9125	18919	9794	8075
Linen Yarn	Cwt.	68	328	48882	48554	48813
Thread	ditto	16682	8249	25392	17143	8609
Wool, raw	Stones.	134	24272	2634		2499
Bacon, flitches	Quantity.	71226	170113	264844	94731	193618
Hams	Cwt.	1552	2186	11611	9425	10058
Salted beef	Barrels.	124021	103930	122064	18134	
Butter	Cwt.	300292	317693	346856	29163	46563
Barley	Barrels.	32444	22036	59891	37855	27447
Oats	ditto	600434	393544	935850	542306	335416
Feathers	Cwt.	1159	2190	4198	2008	3039
Soda	Tons.	1797	2826	5410	2584	3613
Salted pork	Barrels.	149999	101998	168603	66605	18604
Turnip seed	Quarters.	4560	7116	7089		2528
Soap	Cwt.	5315	9932	19095	9163	13779
Tallow	ditto	12806	6364	13762	7398	955
Wheat	Barrels.	37955	146971	79189		41234
Bullocks, cows, and heifers	Quantity.	25437	20236	14122		

These quantities are independent of the relation between values of any kind, whether *official* or *real*: the difference between which we explained in our sixth volume, p. 755, and again in p. 205 of the present volume.

There is another symptom, though we consider it only as a symptom, of increase in Irish wealth and *credit*, which is remarked by Sir Francis: we mean, the terms on which the government is able to effect its loans. The interest of the loan for 1798 was £8. 3s. 11d. *per cent.*; that of 1799 (the year preceding the Union) was £6. 4s. 9d. *per cent.*; that of 1809 was £4. 13s. 1½d. *per cent.*: and this in the face of the legal interest; which in Ireland is 6 *per cent.* on mortgage!

The shipping of Ireland stands thus:

	Ships.	Tonnage.	Sailors.
1806	1,497	102,163	7,049
1808	1,583	111,614	7,485

Commercial prosperity (of exports especially) differs from that of most other pursuits. Learning may prosper; but learning is confined to a small number of the public: military institutions may prosper; but these are little short of a separation from the community: should an army enrich itself till over-loaded with wealth, it impoverishes many; but whose industry has it promoted? Whereas commerce, intent on exporting commodities,

must previously have caused those commodities to be created. If they did not exist, and in a certain state, they could not be exported. How many hands have been employed to raise them to this state? That number of hands, have felt the benefit of commerce; and since without such employment they could not have been set to work, for all the remuneration they have received, in whatever shape they are beholden to commerce. Observation cannot extend itself to every part of a country whence to gather proofs of the advantages imparted by commerce to the very extreme of all branches of industry; but we must combine results, with all the impartiality in our power, if we desire to obtain a general view of the subject.

It is most likely, that the labourer who has now more constant and more profitable employment than he had years ago, for which he is paid higher wages per week, will not bury in the earth the excess of his income above his former earnings; but he will spend more than he formerly did, in procuring food of a superior kind, and more substantial cloathing, for himself, and his family. Even if we suppose that at the year's end he has not a farthing more of money in his pocket than he was accustomed to possess, yet if he have better health (owing to

better sustenance) and change of suits of apparel, instead of nothing but rags, he is a richer man; while the public also is enriched, by the increased demand he has occasioned, for the productions of the land,—corn, flesh-meat, wool, &c. and by the premium he has paid to ingenuity in the talents of his shoemaker, his taylor, &c.—to each of whom he has distributed a profit, and thereby has enabled them to contribute, in their turn, to the public welfare.

It is extremely difficult to render this benefit sensible to the minds of those who have no previous acquaintance with subjects of this nature. We may be sure of our facts, but we can only present them in the shape of inferences; and inferences it is well known are always liable to error. They are further liable to the inconvenience of having *small errors*, from which they are seldom free, magnified by ingenuity into absolute contradictions; so that what rests on a truly solid basis, because that basis is not obvious, shall be deemed illusory. Under these acknowledged disadvantages we pursue our enquiries.

Is the AGRICULTURE of Ireland diminished, or augmented?—Every witness who has travelled in that country says—augmented. For what was the quantity of trefoil, and other seeds, imported into Ireland, raised from 3,829 to 6,768, if not for the increase of artificial grasses?—and what could artificial grasses be wanted for, if not for the support of stock, cattle, &c.?—and what could cattle, &c. be wanted for, if not for food to the mass of the people? Is the arable land equal in extent, and equally well cultivated, as before? It should appear to be so; or how could the export of wheat be raised from 37,955, to 146,971?—the average of three years to 1807: or, if we take the export of 1808, which is 79,189; whence was this increase of 41,234 supplied? Either the same extent of land yields this increase of grain—a sure sign of improved husbandry;—or, a greater extent of land has been brought into arable;—no bad sign of increasing demand for the productions of the farm.

Another production of the farm is CATTLE. Those acquainted with good farming know, that a proportionate quantity of cattle is indispensable to the bu-

siness constantly progressive in such an establishment. We may therefore, fairly conclude, that increase of agriculture demands increase of oxen, &c. Yet it does not appear that Ireland has exported more barrels of salted beef lately, than she did formerly, for previous to 1799, the number marked is 124,021, and in 1808 the number is less, being 122,064. Tallow, which is the product of cattle, is marked 12,806, before 1799; and 9,932 before 1807: but for 1808 it is marked, 13,762. This would seem to betoken a diminution (or, at least, not an increase) of animal food, did we not perceive that Soap, of which tallow forms a principal ingredient, is nearly doubled on the average; and nearly quadrupled on 1808: as 5,315 to 9,932, and 19,095. —Now, we must admit, that this increase in the quantity of tallow is furnished by the same number of oxen, &c. fattened more highly, than formerly; or, by a greater number of oxen, &c. not fattened more than usual. If by a greater number of oxen, yet less of their flesh has been exported—what follows?—that the people of Ireland, themselves have eaten it; and, therefore, that they have had the means of obtaining better food than heretofore. Nor is this all: for the conversion of this quantity of tallow into soap, shews that the manufacture of that commodity in Ireland is improved; that the raw material undergoes another stage of process, and that a greater number of persons derive advantages from it, before exportation. These, also, are so many witnesses in favour of the increase of Irish commerce.

The exports of raw Wool we find, also, augmented from 134 to 24,272; or for 1808, to 2,634, about *twenty-five times* the former exportation: surely, this leads to the inference that more sheep have been bred, slaughtered, and eaten, too; this, therefore, must be placed to the additional quantity of animal food consumed in the country. But, this exportation of wool, imports no extension of the woollen manufactures;—it is granted. The linen manufactory is increased from 36 to 43; but the woollen is not a subject of consideration.

Nevertheless, we are able to shew that the enjoyments of the people derived from the wool of the sheep are increased: for the importation of coarse woollen goods,

blankets, &c. is in 1808 *nine times* as great as it was previous to 1799 : the numbers being as 11,615 to 100,704. It appears to be almost extravagant, to say, that where one person, or family, formerly had a rug, or a blanket as a covering, now *nine persons* have that protection from the cold ; yet unless it can be proved that Ireland formerly made such articles for home supply, (which is not true) or imported them in equal quantities clandestinely from foreign parts, (which is barely not impossible) the evidence preponderates in favour of the more popular use of the article.

The greater part of the principal articles of EXPORT, are such as give employment to the lower class of people : linen yarn, which has suddenly started up from 68 and 328, to 48,882 ; *must* give employment to thousands of *additional* hands ; or those employed on it must receive a great addition of work and wages. Linen thread, supports the same remark.

Hams (for 1808) are ten times their former number :—from 1,552 to 11,611. Surely more swine are bred, fattened, and killed : for flippancy itself will not affirm that the number of *legs* is increased *tenfold* among an equal number of swine, in Ireland. The quantity of salted pork exported is increased, greatly ; yet not sufficiently to weaken the inference that much pork *additional* has been used for food in the country which reared it.

If then, the lower classes of people in Ireland have found additional employment in the merchants' service, as sailors—if additional employment in the linen manufactory, as spinners, and weavers,—if additional labours in agriculture—if they are better fed, and better clothed, than formerly ;—what this class has to regret as having lost by the Union, must be left to the discovery of Irish politicians ;—the intellects of English politicians are too gross to discern it.

That proportion of the population which is neither opulent nor poor, or rather which feels the salutary stimulus to industry of a *mild* poverty, and which gradually coalesces with a rank of life not straitened in point of income, is of the utmost importance to a state ; and must be separately considered in the present enquiry. To this description of persons we may allow something of indulgence : and the effect of this we shall detect in the increased

consumption of wine, spirituous liquors, tea, sugar, and other comforts, known by cheerful housewives under the appellation of *good things*. Wine has increased from 4,436 to 6,260, in spite of an augmentation of duty of *twenty-five guineas* per ton, on Portugal wine : Spirituous liquors are increased from 121,248, to 3,706,771 : tea from 2,260,600, to 3,766,771 ; sugar from 211, to 447 ; Woollen cloths are raised from 18 to 58 ; and Silk stuffs from 5 to 12. This class then is not impoverished, if we may judge by the purchases in which the members of it indulge themselves.

What description of the population can require CARPETS for the ornament of their houses ?—not the poor : yet is not the use of this article of luxury restricted to the rich. The middling class, in conjunction with the affluent, has raised the importation from 51,450 in 1799, to 133,255 in 1807 ; and to 187,923 in 1808, a noticeable, and progressive increase !

A few words on a third, or the opulent class, will conclude this enumeration. Jewellery was 1,400, it is 10,084 ; furniture was 2,943, it is 14,739 ; looking-glasses were 1,637, they are 6,530 ; instruments of music were 1,911, they are 16,782. These articles are most likely to be in demand among the rich ; they are elegancies, not necessities. Not to extend these remarks any further, it follows that the enjoyments of the rich are either spread among ten times the number of individuals ; or those who formerly gratified their inclinations, now gratify them ten times more : in either case we discover no symptom of decay.

To what class then can we turn, to justify complaint ?—The poor, the middling, the rich have increased their enjoyments : what *general* penury is possible ? That individuals may suffer is admitted. In a time of national health there are always thousands sick. Among a population of *five millions* the necessitous must be many ; many must be discontented ; many must be bankrupt ; but discontent and bankruptcy is not therefore, a national sensation, a matter of course. Not from partial but from general facts, must general ideas be taken, and justified. And this forms an answer to what has been asserted on the impoverishment of Ireland in a commercial point of

view, by the operation of the Union of the two countries into one Kingdom.

A few other facts, translated from Sir Francis's work, will conclude this article, and with it this subject.

The three commodities of British export, principally affected by the decrees of France from 1806 to 1808, are

Cotton spun from 85 to 57,
Sugars refined — 11 to 9,
Woollen goods — 62 to 48:

but *finished* cotton goods have risen from 9 to 12; so that the sale of the manufacture in its *finished* state, greatly exceeds in value the sum required to make good the deficiency on the unfinished material. The continent pays *ten times* the money which it heretofore paid for the materials; and to finish those materials it then employed its own workmen: consequently, they reaped the produce of their industry, by the occupation they were engaged in.

Raw sugars are increased from 68 to 78: and rum from 21 to 34. This more than compensates the reduction of refined sugars from 11 to 9. We learn, also, that sugar is now sent to St. Domingo, in a refined state from London; in a raw state from Jamaica: for since the loss of Toussaint, the negroes have abandoned the culture of the sugar cane, and have attached themselves wholly to coffee.

The wines of Bourdeaux which formerly were drank, more than *freely*, in Ireland, are reduced to the importation of 231 tons. Yet many families *now* drink wine which formerly did not use the indulgence.

The difference in the price of wheat between some departments of France and others, is so great; that a Briton knows not how to credit it. When the bushel is at 11 francs in the departments of the Meuse, it is at 22 francs in the departments of the Center: and it exceeds 33 francs in the departments of the Var. *Three times the price!*—This triple value is astonishing in a state so compact as France, and after all we have heard of navigable canals, planned and perfected, of rivers enlarged and deepened, of bridges constructed, of roads made, &c. &c. After all these more than miraculous operations, described by the Minister of the Interior, and solemnly deposed to by the mayors and prefects of the provinces,

behold the difference among three provinces of the same empire!—The official Reports of the prefects complain, that, in the north, to obtain wine, the people turn their corn lands into vineyards; in the south they dig up their vines in order to sow corn; but with a sort of *salvo*;—the intention to restore the vine *after a peace*. A peace would indeed allow the French coasting trade to resume its activity: and that would convey the corn to the wine districts, by sea; and the wine to the corn districts;—to the infinite advantage of both.

Our readers will perceive that we have left Sir Francis in full possession of his argument to prove, that instead of suppressing British commerce, the blockading edicts of Buonaparte have contributed to increase it. That they have indeed rendered the obtaining of British goods on the continent, somewhat more precarious, and subject to greater exactions; but in that department of commerce only is their existence so much as known, much less felt. In the mean time all other countries are open to us; and what the emperor and king labours to pull down with one hand, he labours still more effectually to support with the other. When he closed Europe against us he opened Spanish America; when he forbade Russia from sending us hemp, he forbade us from sending her money. Russia has seen through his intentions, and has eluded them: how else could our Baltic fleet have returned home so abundantly laden with hemp, &c. that our merchants have petitioned for leave to export the superfluity? Had this taken place before Sir Francis published his second edition, he might have appealed to it, in proof that to controul the commerce of Britain, even with the subservient Russia, is not quite that easy matter which fancy may warrant it at the Court of St Cloud.

We understand that this work is about to appear in an English dress: when that is accomplished we shall recommend it to the consideration of our countrymen, as well in the west, and the north, as in the south, and the metropolis. The sources of information to which Sir Francis has had recourse, and the materials he has obtained from them, entitle this pamphlet to greater attention than might be inferred from its size and appearance.

Costume of the Ancients. By Thomas Hope, in two volumes 4to. price 4l. 14s. 6d. 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. with 200 plates. Miller, London. 1809.

THE reputation of Mr. Hope, as a man of taste, has long been established: and Fortune has enabled him to obey the dictates of his inclinations, in collecting the choicest specimens of articles, to which taste usually attaches importance. This includes, in all lovers of art, a partiality for the productions of ancient genius; and, in the instance of our author, it also almost excludes every other consideration. He is altogether a Grecian,—an ancient Grecian. The furniture of his house, the ornaments of his table, the construction and decoration of his apartments are antique; and the nearer they approach the utensils fashionable in the days of Homer, so much the more valuable they appear in the eyes of their owner. We admit, without hesitation, the principle, that beauty of form is of greater value in point of gratification, than richness of material: and that heavy, gross proportions are absolute repugnancies to elegance. It does not, therefore follow, that we regard every thing ancient as applicable to the state of society in this country. Climate and manners justify our thinking for ourselves; and while we are thankful for assistance in guiding our choice, we nevertheless insist that the appointments of nature, must preponderate our judgments as to proper and improper, applicable and inapplicable. We are not Greeks, we are Britons: we are not heathens, we are Christians: we are not republicans, but subjects of a mixed government, and a limited monarchy. We shall therefore, with the characteristic independence of our country, select what appears to us becoming; and what appears unbecoming must await our *Veto*. This is our answer to Mr. Hope, when he recommends furniture of Grecian forms for our apartments, and vestures of Grecian costume for our females.

But this gentleman informs us, that he has principally in view in this work, the benefit of artists, especially history painters, to whom correct information of the modes and manners of that people, whose actions they are most frequently called to represent, is of great moment. We ac-

knowledge the service done to art by these volumes. They contribute to remove the reproach cast on our nation by foreigners, that British literature is extremely defective in works on the subject of antiquities. Certainly, our island is not the centre of antiquarian learning; the *mines* of ancient performances are in Italy, not in Britain. From Italy, therefore, we may expect to import; but to export originals is not in our power. Every exertion that contributes to place instruction on this subject within reach of artists in moderate circumstances, is entitled to applause; and we consider Mr. Hope, in putting so low a price as 1l. 1s. though now raised to 1l. 11s. 6d. on the small paper copies of his "*Costume*," as having laid professors under a debt of gratitude to his liberality no less than to his learning.

After this general commendation, we shall introduce a few remarks, on the method taken by the author to accomplish his purpose.

These volumes open with an Introduction, in which we meet with a very severe censure on the Royal Academy, as at present conducted: for Mr. H. asserts, that

Our English artists cannot, in general, be said to possess even the advantage of consulting those more widely spreading, though fainter shadows, which the more perfect and substantial forms, themselves concealed from their view, may cast on paper. In Paris there are public libraries, in which the student enjoys free access to such works on art, as are too voluminous or too expensive to line his own shelves. But such there are not in London; and the few hundred pounds that would be required to form a collection of books, calculated for the purpose of instructing artists only, would be one of the small expenditures which, methinks, would repay the nation the greatest interest.

What! has Mr. Hope never heard of the *Library* of the Royal Academy; and does he not know that a gentleman has apartments in that stately edifice, with a salary, for causing it to be opened to the students who visit it—*once a week*? Does he not know, that a catalogue of the books was two or three summers ago compiled—not by the librarian—but by an eminent bookseller, who is *ex professo* acquainted with such things, and received only *thirty guineas* for his trouble? How then can this writer affirm, that English students have no opportunity of consulting

engraved representations of ancient articles? We wish he would offer himself for the professor's chair, and give lectures on this subject. A lecturer with equal zeal and knowledge, might do much towards reducing to something like correctness, the redundancies of inventive genius, which now perplex us year after year in the exhibition of the Royal Academy. We must, however, express our conviction, that before Mr. H. accepts that situation, he should become better acquainted with the wants of ignorance, and the indolencies of dullness. To the intelligent master of his profession, these volumes will yield *additional* knowledge; but the *tyro* just entering on his studies, will often ask, *what is it?* though the subject lie open before him. The species of dress, the descriptive name of a dress, the names of its parts, should be stated, with a *this is it*—to youth intent on learning; and more precisely still, if possible, to youth *not* intent on learning.

We must be allowed also to disapprove of "supplying the different component parts of a single representation from a diversity of models." This tends to diminish the confidence which may be really due to an example; and it confuses the inquiry concerning those occasions on which such or such garments, as forming parts of the costume, were respectively worn, *e. gr.* whether in summer or in winter; to say nothing of *demi-saison* stuffs, and occasional magnificence.

Mr. H. declines all reference to the dresses of Hindostan, and to those of Egypt: this we are sorry for; as among the habits depicted on the most ancient Egyptian monuments, we find some which agree precisely with those of India, at this day; also because subjects connected with Egyptian manners, are sometimes commissioned from history painters. His treatise, nevertheless, includes remarks on the Costume of the Medes, Assyrians, Persians, and other eastern nations: and this, as pointing out distinctions, will be found useful. We wish it had been in his power to have added *something* in reference to the nation of Israel: for, we regret to say, that scarcely any department of art more loudly calls for reformation than that of which Scripture events are the subjects. Our author observes, that "the Parthian kings are sometimes represented on their coins *bareheaded*, with

their long hair and bushy beards, most finically dressed and curled." He might have added, that they are also sometimes represented with *wigs*; not absolutely unlike a "brown George." The "Phrygian bonnet," is less likely to have "travelled, during the intercourse of the Venetians with the Greeks, as far westward as Venice itself," than to have been retained by a colony of the Hænetian Asiatic people, which settled on the shore of the Adriatic.

On the Grecian costume Mr. H. enlarges *con amore*: he makes good use of his Greek vases. Much may be learned from them. He observes, that on two in his possession, the Grecian ladies wear *black*, with cropped hair; while in mourning. We observe, in addition, that this black has its decoration of stars and spots, and that the *whole* of the dress is not black. In this respect, modern mourning is *deeper*. If any wish to see other particulars of Grecian *etiquette*, in respect to mourning, we refer them to the pleadings of Isocrates, on occasion of an affair of *crim. con.*, the example of which, though Grecian, we do not recommend to British ladies.

The Roman costume has, as it deserves, a chapter to itself. It is surely extraordinary, that notwithstanding the number of Roman statues in which the toga is represented, there should still be a dispute among antiquaries, whether it were round or square. Mr. H. thinks it was semicircular. If this point remain *mooted*, how can we decide others on which we have no such multiplicity of evidence?—We recommend the utmost diligence of inspection, with the utmost exercise of candour. We know the subject too extensively ourselves, to profess infallibility, critics and Panoramists though we be.

The plates form the chief part of this publication: the figures they contain are selected from various authorities. In general, we are satisfied with them; though we think our old friend Winkelman's *Monumenti Inediti*, the volumes of the *Antiquities of Herculaneum*, and even *Montfaucon*, with others, should have been mentioned as having furnished subjects; because more precise explanations might have been obtained by such reference than Mr. Hope has thought proper to introduce.

The order in which these plates are

arranged is broken; and subjects of the same description are placed in different parts of the collection: this is a disadvantage. We also should have thought several plates representing Jupiter, Neptune, &c. unnecessary. The habits of those deities are sufficiently well known: this is a waste of labour. Some of the figures of Minerva are not only characteristic, but beautiful. In that of No. 145, Mr. H. should have continued the spear to the ground; at present it has the air of a torch or lamp. This tenderness of *restorations* is not the general fault of Mr. H.: he has, on the contrary, *finished* his figures in conformity to his judgment: and he has added embellishments, borders, &c. on his own authority. Some of them are handsome; but they are liable to the excepting question,—were they worn on all occasions indiscriminately? and, if not, under what circumstances were such embellishments deemed decorous or indecorous?

The implements of husbandry, or of war, parts of armour, of ships, &c. are useful articles; but why not among the ships' beaks, introduce the only one known to exist, that found in the port of Genoa, and employed to adorn the gate of the arsenal in that city?

To convey a more accurate notion of this work to our readers by a specimen, we introduce a plate of a Grecian lady, habited in a costume which Mr. H. deems characteristic of the females of that country. We observe in it, no less than *four* different patterns for borders. This dress, we presume, exhibits that worn abroad; the large veil, or peplum, answering the purpose of a cloak, or *mantle*; and the covering over the bosom, answering to the modern *spencer*. The head-dress, by projecting behind, departs, in our opinion, too much from the form, of the head; and consequently, contributes to impose on that part, a form not coincident with the true object of art;—

Nature to advantage drest.

The *general* parts of female dress among the Greeks, are thus described by Mr. H. The attention paid to this *science* anciently, may be inferred very strongly from his account.

The tunic was worn by females either quite loose, or confined by a girdle; and this girdle was either drawn tight round the waist,

or loosely slung round the loins. Often, when the tunic was very long, and would otherwise have entangled the feet, it was drawn over the girdle in such a way as to conceal the latter entirely underneath its folds. It is not uncommon to see two girdles of different widths worn together, the one very high up, and the other very low down, so as to form between the two in the tunic, a puckered interval; but this fashion was only applied to short tunics by Diana, the wood-nymphs, and other females fond of the chase, the foot race and other such martial exercises, and were incompatible with long petticoats.

From Greek vases and paintings we learn that the tunic was often adorned with sprigs, spots, stars, &c. worked in the ground of the stuff; and rich scrolls, meanders, &c. carried round its edges; and this tunic was frequently as well out of doors as within, worn without any other more external garment. In mourning, when the Grecian ladies cut their hair close to the head, they wore the tunic black; as appears from two of my Greek vases, both representing Electra performing funeral rites at the tomb of Agamemnon.

Over this tunic or under-garment, which was made to reach the whole length of the body, down to the feet, Grecian females generally, though not always, wore a second and more external garment; only intended to afford an additional covering or protection to the upper half of the person. This species of bib seems to have been composed of a square piece of stuff, in form like our shawls or scarfs, folded double, so as to be apparently reduced to half its original width; and was worn with the doubled part upwards, and the edge or border downwards, next the zone or girdle. It was suspended round the chest and back, in such a way that its centre came under the left arm, and its two ends hung down loose under the right arm; and according as the piece was square or oblong, these ends either only reached to the hips or to the ancles. The whole was secured by means of two clasps or buttons, which fastened together the fore and hind part over each shoulder.

In later times, this bib, from a square piece of stuff doubled, seems to have become a mere single narrow slip, only hanging down a short way over the breast, and allowing the girdle when even fixed as high as possible to appear underneath.

The peplum constituted the outermost covering of the body. Among the Greeks it was common to both sexes; but was chiefly reserved for occasions of ceremony or of public appearance; and as well in its texture as in its shape, seemed to answer to our shawl. When very long and ample, so as to admit of being wound twice round the body—first under the arms, and the second time, over the shoulders—it assumed the name of *diplax*.

In rainy or cold weather it was drawn over the head. At other times this mode of wearing it, was expressive of humility or of grief, and was adopted by men and women, when in mourning, or when performing sacred rites; on both which accounts it was thus worn by Agamemnon, when going to sacrifice his daughter. This peplum was never fastened on by means of clasps or buttons, but only prevented from slipping off through its own involutions. Endless were the combinations which these exhibited, and in nothing do we see more ingenuity exerted or more fancy displayed, than in the various modes of making the peplum form grand and contrasted draperies. Indeed, the different degrees of simplicity or of grace, observable in the throw of the peplum, were regarded as indicating the different degrees of rusticity or of the refinement, inherent in the disposition of the wearer.

For the sake of dignity, all the goddesses of the highest class, Venus excepted, wore the peplum; but for the sake of convenience Diana generally had her's furled up, and drawn tight over the shoulders and round the waist, so as to form a girdle, with the ends hanging down before or behind. Among the Greeks the peplum never had, as among the barbarians, its whole circumference adorned by a separate fringe; but only its corners loaded with little metal weights or drops, in order to make them hang down more straight and even.

A veil of lighter tissue than the peplum was often worn by females. It served both as an appendage of rank and as a sign of modesty. On the first account it is seen covering the diadem of Juno, the mitre of Ceres, and the turreted crown of Cybele, and of the emblematical figures of cities and of provinces; and on the latter account it is made in ancient representation of nuptials, to conceal the face of the bride. Penelope, when urged to state whether she preferred staying with her father, or following her husband, is represented expressing her preference of the latter, merely by drawing her veil over her blushing features.

Gastronomy, or the Bon-Vivant's Guide,

a Poem, in Four Cantos. From the French of J. Berchoux. pp. 42, price 5s. Booth, London, 1810.

Deign, good-natur'd reader, my plan to approve,
You will pardon bad verse, if good eating you love!

So modestly says the author, and the translator joins; but we think our readers will find good verse; although the work is rather a free translation of the celebrated poem of Mons. Berchoux, entitled, *La Gastronomie, ou l'Homme des Champs à Table*, than a servile fac-

simile of the author.* To prove the validity of our assertion, we quote the four first lines of the original with the translation, in which will be seen that the playful manner of M. Berchoux is certainly not done that justice which might have been rendered it by a closer attention to the manner of the author.

Je ne suis point jaloux du poète lyrique,
Qui semble se nourrir de fleurs de rhétorique;
Qui, plein de son sujet, sans en être moins creux,
Parle souvent à jeune le langage des Dieux.

At the fame of those poets I breathe not a sigh,
Who on lyrical pinions are borne to the sky;
'Midst the gods they may revel at banquets divine,
With my friends, here below, let me cheerfully dine.

This passage serving as the exordium, has particularly caught our attention, and though our time as Panoramists will not allow us, on all occasions, to become versifiers, yet we conceive, alliteration apart, the following couplets approximate more nearly to the meaning of the author.

At the pale lyric bards I don't grudge in the least,
Who the flowers of their rhetoric can fancy a feast.
Who, full of their subject, yet not the less hollow,
Speak, fasting, the raptures inspir'd by Apollo.

The translator informs us "that his work was the employment of a few solitary evenings, during the severe illness of a near and dear relative, resorted to as a temporary relief from the reflections which the scene witnessed in the day was but too much calculated to give rise to—that it had been thrown aside nearly forgotten, as, in his opinion, it was neither sufficiently playful or polished for the public eye."—Be this as it may, we can-

* *La Gastronomie* was dedicated to Mme. Larcher d'Arcy. We present the original to our readers, in which M. Berchoux has so playfully ridiculed the modern revolutionary mania of terming artists, *tous les gens de métier*.

Tout est soumis à l'art au moment où nous sommes.

Tant d'arts nous font beaucoup d'honneur:
Nous avons l'art du décroqueur,*
Et l'art de faire des grands hommes,†
L'art de tondre et d'être tondu,
Voire l'art du naturaliste.....
L'art de plaire vous est connu;
Celui d'aimer.....vous l'avez lu.
On travaille à l'art d'être triste.....
L'art de manger manquoit à cette liste:
Je vous l'adresse; et, grâce au talent
D'un poète Gastronomiste,
Vous allez dîner en artiste.....
C'est dîner très-légerement.

* On connoit les décroqueurs qui se sont établis dernièrement au palais du Tribunal, sous le nom d'*Artistes-vendeurs*.
† Voyez un livre nouveau, intitulé *la Mégaloantropogénésie, ou l'Art de faire des grands Hommes*.

not help thanking him for giving M. Berchoux an English dress. As for the execution, the work shall speak for itself, for, as friends to good living, we proceed to set before our readers a short extract from each book, at the same time complimenting the literary and culinary public on having this dish presented to them at such a seasonable time, by an English cook, and—without disparagement to John Bull—*l'art de manger* fully displayed in London at the beginning of 1810, in easy flowing verse. Whatever may be said of author or translator, we venture to anticipate the opinion of every good citizen in asserting, with Mons. Berchoux, "that we see, with extreme satisfaction, that, whatever opinion may be entertained of the talents of the author, at least every one must allow a great esteem for the matter which he treats on."—We differ from the translator on the propriety of giving the notes; some of them, we think, ought to have appeared in an English dress. And now, as Swift says,

Thus much may serve by way of poem,—
Proceed we, therefore, with our Poem.

The Cookery of the Ancients.

Though the polished Deille, in strains Virgil might own,
Boast the garden's rich fruits, and its flow'rs newly blown;
Or with spirit and ease treat of Philodorus' art:
Whilst the guide I respect, from his path I depart.
Be mine a new subject, both fertile and gay,
I *Cookery* sing, and here point out the way
Each pleasure to share that repasts can afford;
Make men eagerly seek, with regret quit the board:
Banish care and *ennui*, give to mirth a loose reign,
Free the young from all thought and the old from all pain.

Ye who, hitherto, blindly have follow'd your taste,
Nor on rules for the palate a thought ever waste;
Who, in eating, pretend to no method or choice,
Were creatures of habit!—attend to my voice.

Why need I invoke aid divine for my strains?
Inspiration abounds where good fellowship reigns.
But hold!—lest I, heedlessly, seem to neglect
The pow'r who disdains not our feast to protect.
Approach, jolly *Comus*; come hither awhile—
Let thy rubicund face on thy votary smile:
Approve my attempt, deign to polish my rhymes,
If worthy of thee, they shall reach future times;
And my precepts adorn'd with poetical grace,
Amongst the fine arts that of *Cookery* place!

Let the world's early ages unheeded pass by,
Ere to tillage our forefathers learn'd to apply
When earth was their table, the sky their sole tent;
On times so near chaos our pains were mispent.
'Tis enough to recur to old *Hesiod's* days;
Coeval, great *Homer*! with thine, were his lays,
Where the charms and the toils of the country abound,
Whilst thine with gods, princes, and heroes resound.

By skill unimproved, without neatness or grace,
Man's cookery, then, was both sordid and base,
His manner of eating most vulgar and rude,
And hunger alone gave a zest to his food.

.....
The Athenians, who liv'd but for glory and fame,
Had deserv'd and obtain'd in each science a name;
That of cooking, of course, soon emerged from neglect,
And their meats were combin'd, to improve their effect.
Ye Sages, who first these experiments tried,
And deep chemical studies to cooking applied,
Of the skilful inventions ye well might be vain,
Which, when appetite fail'd, could revive it again!
Elaborate treatises, authors then wrote,
On flesh, fruit, and herbs;—their hard names need I quote!
Mithæacus, Actides, besides Philoxene,
Hegemon of Thasos, Thimbro of Mycene.
By his bay mix'd with ivy, Archestrates known,
Like me, sang of feasts, and gained deathless renown;
But, alas! I can't hope in his glory to share,
And the moderns, I fear, have but little to spare.
In Athens, the use of each pot-herb they knew,
There, mint, cummin, and thyme, and a hundred more,
grew.

'Twas with stuffing that turkies and fowls were thought
best,

Their river and sea-fish were variously drest,
And by seas'ning disguised, so that herring or conger,
Or glaucus, transform'd, wanted flavour no longer.
Of their numerous sauces the record I'll spare,
Of their savoury gravies and seasonings rare,
Which genius invented, enlightened by taste—
Thearion all others excell'd in his paste;
With his delicate fingers he moulded the dough
Into wafers and fritters—his cakes, white as snow,
Were mix'd, by an art Carpathia had taught,
With honey, which then from Hymettus was brought;
That mountain so fam'd, whose hard fate we deplore,
For, its liberty's gone, and its fragrance no more!

By taste, in their banquets the Grecians were guided;
A king was elected, who o'er them presided:
His reign, firm and mild, ne'er his subjects oppress'd,
Extreme licence in speech, or in eating, repress'd;
But, to drinking attentive, there claim'd his full sway.
Nor a flincher allow'd at the table to stay.

Who e'er nam'd the Greeks, and the Romans forgot;
Proud Rome, queen of nations! whose long envied lot
Was, from regions extensive, a tribute to claim;
Some, so distant and various, she scarce knew their
name.

Her barbarous manners she early forswore;
Preserved Numa's laws, but obey'd them no more.
Vast and rich were the nations her gen'rais subdued,
But equally great the expence which ensued.

The First Course.

When forming your household, apply your chief care
To the choice of a Cook of accomplishments rare,
That point's most important;—on him it depends
Your table to crowd with agreeable friends.
This artist alone can establish your fame,
By the pleasing reflections attached to your name.
With preference mark him, who, proud of his station,
Conceives himself born for the good of the nation,
In the kitchen, with dignity lays down the law,
Uncontroul'd, in his sphere, as a Turkish Bashaw.
As glory he courts, when his aid you implore,
You may hold this discourse, to incite him the more;—
"Your fame, my good friend, has engag'd my esteem;
"Be chief of my kitchen;—there govern supreme.
"Become, from this day, my sole umpire, my guide;
"O'er my pleasantest want, let your science preside.
"Like a despot, command;—cut and carve as you will.
"May my excellent dinners, prepar'd by your skill,
"Fix my volatile friends; by their senses deceiv'd,
"Till my wit seem a source of the pleasure receiv'd!"
It is thus, in your service, his zeal you excite;
And, when pleasure and duty together unite,

Most happy effects in all arts we command.
The proof is approaching;—your guests are at hand,
Observe, in each face, how completely declar'd
Is a wish to partake of the banquet prepar'd!
Their eagerness chides the slow kitchen's delay!
Yet there all's in motion;—the stoves now display
Flames vivid and bright, whilst, above and around,
Thick vapours with savoury odours abound;
Here and there run the kitchen-maids hurried and hot,
Now watching the stoves, now the spit or the pot,
But the Cook remains cool, his arrangements all made,
Well convinced the delay will be amply repaid.

The Second Course.

When dinner's announc'd, to all business a truce;
Ne'er a sad, or e'en serious, point introduce,
Our rulers should punish intrusion, by fines,
And nothing disturb a good fellow, who dines.
To accomplish a total exclusion of care,
The gifts of the ivy-crown'd god you must share;
With burgundy, richly empurple your lip,
Or, in rosy champagne wit and pleasantry sip.
But be not seduced, here to quicken your speed;
Tow'rd's the summit of extasy, slowly proceed:
An ample dessert, in reserve we retain,
If I, then, am too cautious, you've leave to complain.

The Dessert.

Now arrives the Dessert:—to its splendid display,
The dairy's rich produce, alas! must give way.

At your table, encourage convivial glee,
Give to wit a free scope, and invite repartee.
Banish personal jokes, which too often annoy;
The laugh, with your friends, but not at them, enjoy.
Abstaining from slander, of satire beware;
And debates, on religion or politics, spare:
More by actions, than words, you may either support.
Prove your orthodox faith by your orthodox port;
And, to battle invasion, you claret should drink,
Leave the French without wine, and their courage must sink.

To toasts I object not;—but hate party cant.
Drink no minister's health; nor exclaim with a rant,
"Be liberty welcome! equality, hail!"
"May the sovereign will of the people prevail!"
By sentiments, e'er you some guest may displease;
I'd fain, in their stead, drink such wishes as these—
"May we, fifty years hence, stout and hearty remain,
"And a hundred times meet, at this table, again!"
"May no change of season endanger the vine,
"Nor war or taxation deprive us of wine!"—
Your spleen 'gainst your fees, is most strongly express'd,
By wishing "their dinners may ne'er be well dress'd;"
"That out of condition their wines may be found,
"Their port chill'd and muddy, their claret unsound;
"That no friends, at their table, may sociably meet;
"But, stupid and sulky, alone they may eat!"
Let this be the only revenge they've to fear;
For, if Jove grant your pray'r, they'll do penance severe.

One word more—We insert in its original language (and likewise the translation, "for the benefit of Country Gentlemen," as a senatorial wit facetiously said) the following seasonable hint against *pot-luck invitation*, which all lovers of good eating and drinking will be pleased to accept as no bad new year's gift from the witty pen of M. Berchoux, to whom, upon some future occasion, we shall re-

turn, and take a peep at his charming *Pièces Fugitives*.

O vous! dont la santé robuste, florissante,
Des plus riches festins peut sortir triomphante,
Approchez, c'est à vous d'embellir nos banquets:
De mon art bienfaisant sachez tous les secrets.
Je ne vous tairai rien. Si par fois on vous prie
A dîner sans façon et sans cérémonie,
Refusez promptement ce dangereux honneur:
Cette invitation cache un piège trompeur.
Souvenez-vous toujours, dans le cours de la vie,
Qu'un dîner sans façon est une perfidie.

Ye impotent mortals! whom Comus must slight,
Go, follow your regimen, far from our sight.—
But approach, ye, whose health is so lusty and strong,
That you triumph o'er feasts e'er so copious or long!—
To you, who our banquets enjoy and adorn,
All my secrets I'll teach;—for the science you're born.
I'll nothing conceal;—take this hint, by the way,
That a *family-dinner* is sure to betray.
Refuse then, at once, and without hesitation,
That cruel deceit, a *pot-luck invitation*.

Our readers will find in our succeeding pages, no bad sequel to M. Berchoux's poem; for, in page 719, we have inserted an analysis of l'*Almanach des Gourmands*, wherein is well described the luxuries of modern Paris.—But we cannot refuse ourselves the pleasure of here inserting M. B.'s celebrated elegy, so full of irony and pointed sarcasm on the heroes of the French revolution, which we hope some of our able correspondents will translate into English verse.

Élégie.

Qui me délivrera des Grecs et des Romains?
Du sein de leurs tombeaux, ces peuples inhumains
Feront assurément le malheur de ma vie;—
Mes amis, écoutez mon discours, je vous prie:
A peine je fus né, qu'un maudit rudiment
Poursuivit mon enfance avec acheminement.
La langue des Césars faisait tout mon supplice:
Hélas! je préférais celle de ma nourrice,
Et je me vis fessé pendant six ans et plus,
Grâces à Cicéron, Tite, Cornélius,
Tous Romains enterrés depuis maintes années,
Dont je maudissois fort les œuvres surannées.
Je fis ma rhétorique, et n'appris que des mots
Qui chargeoient ma mémoire, et troublaient mon repos.
Tous ces mots étoient Grecs: c'étoit la *catéchèse*,
La *paronomasie* avec la *syndérèse*,
L'*épéuthèse*, la *crase*, et tout ce qui s'ensuit.
Dans le monde savant je me vis introduit.
J'entendis des discours sur toutes les matières,
Jamais sans qu'on citât les Grecs et leurs confrères;
Et le moindre grimaud trouvoit toujours moyen
De parler du *Scamandre* et du peuple Troyen.
Ce fut bien pis encor quand je fus au théâtre:
Je n'entendis jamais que Phédre, Cléopâtre,
Ariane, Didon; leurs amans, leurs époux,
Tous princes enragés, hurlant comme des loups;
Rodogune, Jocaste, et puis les Pélopides,
Et tant d'autres héros noblement paricides.....
Et toi! triste famille, à qui Dieu fasse paix,
Race d'Agamemnon, qui ne suis jamais,
Dont je voyois partout les querelles antiques
Et les assassinats mis en vers héroïques....
J'avois pris en horreur cette société,
Et demandois enfin grâce à l'antiquité.

Je voulais observer des mœurs contemporaines,
 Vivre avec des Français, loin de Rome et d'Athènes.....
 Mais les anciens n'ont pu me laisser respirer.
 Tout mon pays s'est mis à se régénérer.
 Les Grecs et les Romains, mêlés dans nos querelles,
 Sont venus présider à nos œuvres nouvelles.
 Bientôt tous nos bandits, à Rome transportés,
 Se sont crus des héros pour s'être révoltés;
 Bientôt Païs n'a vu que des évergètes,
 De sales Cicérons, de vilains Démosthènes,
 Mettant l'assassinat au nombre des vertus,
 Egorgeant leurs parens pour faire les Brutus.
 Le vol s'ennoblissait et n'étoit plus un crime,
 Car à Lacédémone il étoit légitime;
 Les biens étoient communs, tous les hommes (gaulx,
 Et Lycurgue invitoit à piller les châteaux.
 Tout faisoit une loi du partage des terres,
 Chacun dut en jouir, hors les propriétaires;
 Qui virent tous leurs biens, entre leurs mains suspects,
 En proie à des voleurs renouvelés des Grecs.....
 On sait que ces Messieurs, à l'histoire fidèles,
 Ont, dans tous leurs exploits, surpassé leurs modèles;
 Les modernes enfin ont dévasté nos biens,
 Et nous ont égorvés en citant les anciens.
 O vous, qui gouvernez notre triste patrie,
 Qu'il ne soit plus parlé des Grecs, je vous supplie,
 Ils ne peuvent prétendre à de plus longs succès!
 Vous seroit-il égal de nous parler Français?
 Votre néologisme effarouche les dames;
 Elles n'entendent rien à vos myriagrammes;
 La langue que parloient Racine et Fénelon,
 Nous suffiroit encor, si vous le trouviez bon.
 En vain, Monsieur C—, pour nous plein de tendresse,
 Ressuscite partout les fêtes de la Grèce,
 Et veut absolument nous faire divertir,
 Quand il ne nous plaît pas de prendre du plaisir....
 Laisse-là, mon ami, tes farces olympiques,
 Tes déesses de bois, tes guenilles civiques,
 Qui ne plairont jamais à de tristes chrétiens,
 Privés de leurs parens, dépouillés de leurs biens....
 Dis-moi, toi qui sais tout et qui chéris tes frères,
 Les Grecs me paieront-ils mes rentes viagères.....

Travels in Turkey, Italy, and Russia,
 during the years 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806,
 with an Account of some of the Greek
 Islands. By Thomas Macgill, small 8vo.
 2 Vols. pp. 520. Price 10s., Murray,
 London, 1809.

THE personal talents, and the opportunities for observation, enjoyed by travellers, impart to their works, real differences, though it is not easy to express the distinctions between them. The author of these volumes, "engaged almost constantly in the pursuits of commerce, has had little, in fact, no leisure for those of literature." This avowal protects him from censure, on account of his literary deficiencies; and equally from the imputation of repeating that information which had been already communicated by others, of more classic attainments prior to their visits to the east, and of greater leisure for more minute inspection of particulars when actually travelling in those countries.

Readers who are acquainted with former publications of travels into the Levant, especially, by British literati, will find no considerable accession of novelty, in the letters of Mr. Macgill. His descriptions are superficial, and his incidents differ little from those of daily occurrence. Yet we think him a genuine and independent witness; and incline to add, that he has communicated facts of a commercial nature, which the learned have either overlooked, or had not opportunities of observing.

Late years have seen several important changes take place in the commercial relations of Turkey, equally as in the political situation of that cumbrous empire. The modern establishments of Russia in the Black Sea; the possession of Malta by the British, the unsettled state of Egypt, the interruption of the Turkish caravan to Mecca, by the Wahabees, and insurrections almost innumerable in some of her fairest provinces, are circumstances which tend to affect deeply the interest of the Ottoman Porte. To draw decisive inferences from these and other incidents, is not easy; inasmuch that we are almost tempted to take refuge in the Turkish doctrine of fate, and to conclude that till the date appointed for the execution of "what is written" arrives, this empire must subsist; as at that period, nothing can save it from dissolution.

In the mean time, we are desirous of obtaining the latest intelligence relating to Turkey: if it be on the verge of exhibiting another instance of the instability of human establishments, then is it the more interesting as a subject of curiosity; while it also partakes of the nature of a political lesson. If this empire should continue, the world may enquire not without surprise, on what principles a Mussulman sovereignty, long doomed to subversion, by the discerning, has withstood those storms, by which Christian sovereignties have been either, completely overset, or most sorely shaken.

In answering such enquiries Mr. Macgill affords us no assistance. His employment was in the less splendid, but more safe and more honourable walk of commerce.

We find him first at Venice, whence he sails to Trieste, and from thence by the Greek islands to Smyrna: he visits

Constantinople, Ephesus, the Black Sea, with Odessa; the plains of Troy, and other places in the neighbourhood. An Appendix by another writer, contains a more particular account of Odessa; the public tariff of the duties paid by British goods in the Ottoman empire; and the progress of the culture and commerce of tobacco in Macedonia.

We believe it is not easy to increase that abhorrence of French rapacity, which prevails throughout Europe, and especially in Britain. If it be possible that the reproductive powers of land should replace the necessities of life, of which that rapacity had despoiled a country, yet it is impossible that a state depending for existence, on commerce, should be able to support such violence. Of this Venice is a striking instance: and the state of the Venetians as described by our author is conformable to that of other communities, to which French liberty has proved the most crushing of despotisms.

The most illustrious persons in Venice, were reduced to the extreme of indigence; but—small was the number of those who escaped the general ruin. It was computed in 1804, *no less than a thousand of the heads of noble families were begging in the streets. At every corner, on every bridge, might be seen some fair Venetian lady, covered with a veil, and on her knees imploring the aid of charity; whilst her male relations were occupied in pursuits far less honorable, in order to procure subsistence.*

The distresses of the nobles and of the wealthy, were not confined to themselves alone; for, the Venetians being naturally ostentatious, thousands of menials, and of the lower classes of the people, were supported by their bounty; these, therefore, were now abandoned to all the horrors of want; for, in the general disorder and misery of the state, where was employment to be found for them? Innumerable gay gondolas were laid aside, and their skillful rowers, being utterly unqualified for any other occupation, were in a state of starvation.

It is scarcely possible to depict the miserable situation of the nobles. The Abbé —, a man of talents and of probity, with whom I was very intimate, one morning at breakfast related to me with tears in his eyes, the following circumstance, which he said, had happened only the night before. The Abbé had passed that evening at the house of a friend; in the course of it, they were attracted and

charmed by the singing of a female in the street, immediately underneath the window. The pleasure of the good Abbé was, however, soon converted into melancholy; he thought he recognized the voice of a friend, and hastened to the street to ascertain the truth. The person was so muffled up that he could not discover her. He ran to her house, and his repeated knocks at the door were at length answered from within by her children, who informed him, that their mother had gone out with their father and a friend, to procure something for supper, and that having now no servant, they were locked in till their return. Being now persuaded that the songstress was his old friend, he returned to her, and with the utmost regret, discovered that she was the Countess C—, who was thus singing in the streets, in the hope of collecting a few soldi, to purchase food for her starving children.

In her-days of affluence, she had been a remarkably fine player on the piano-forte, as well as a charming singer; the Abbé, who possesses an excellent taste in music, had frequently joined in the concert with her. In those days, this unfortunate Countess was the ornament and the delight of the society in which she lived.

Before the French quitted Venice, what they could not take away with them they destroyed; eight fine ships of the line, and several frigates which were then on the stocks in an unfinished state, they rendered useless, cutting their stems, stern-post, and keel in different places, and taking away the shores from their starboard and larboard and quarter, so that they fell down, never more to be rendered serviceable until entirely taken to pieces. This arsenal used to furnish employment to several hundreds of workmen, now its only inhabitants are a few slaves or malefactors, who are chiefly occupied in making into fire-wood the remains of those fabrics which the French have destroyed, and which were formerly the pride and glory of the Venetians. A large portion of the arsenal is formed into an oyster bed, which produces no small revenue.

That the Italians did not do their duty to their country, in defending it, is notorious; can we wonder at the consequences? And when we find the general of Roman soldiers sending his compliments to the governor of Ancona, with a message, importing that he thought *the weather too cold to put his troops under arms, that morning*: to which the governor replied "as the weather was not too cold for the ladies, he thought it was not too much so for Roman soldiers,"—can

we but recollect what Roman soldiers were?

Surely! 'twas not such spawn as these,
Which quell'd the stern Eacides,
And dyed with Punic blood the seas!

One of the pleasantest rencontres described by our author, is that of Osman Oglu, a Turkish sportsman, at Ephesus; and as this prince by his activity, contradicts the usual notion of Turkish indolence, we shall introduce him to our readers.

We had not alighted long at the Caffene, before we received a visit from one of the chief men of Osman Oglu, prince of these parts, who was here upon a shooting excursion, and had dispatched this gentleman to see who we were; he smoked a pipe, and drank some coffee; and we, judging it prudent, returned the visit to the prince without delay.

This prince, who governs over an immense tract of Asia Minor, is about twenty years of age, of manly appearance, with an open and haughty countenance: all the pride of a Turkish sovereign appears in him; his physiognomy betrayed no marks of ignorance, or want of talent however ill improved. He sat on a sofa in a mud-walled room, of about fifteen feet square. On the right hand sat a falcon; on his left, lay a young pointer; before him were stretched five Spartan greyhounds. None of his people sit in his presence, save the favourite, who visited us in his name. When we entered, according to the Turkish custom, he neither got up, nor saluted us, but sat cross-legged to receive our homage. Coffee and pipes were soon introduced; here I was amused with another Turkish custom: the prince and the favourite were served before the strangers; our visit lasted only a quarter of an hour, the conversation was on the pleasures of sporting. The prince proposed a party for the morning following, we agreed to join him, and then took our leave.

The youth was surrounded by about fifty armed desperadoes, who formed his guard; these are never held in any estimation till they have been robbers or freebooters for many years, and have taken away the lives of a few of their fellow-creatures, whether gloriously or ingloriously, whether in battle or in cool blood; and they are often called upon by their employer to recount the deeds they have done.

The morning appeared clad in sable, and clouds full of rain topped the surrounding mountains; but long ere the lazy god of day arose in the east, the youthful prince paid us a visit in our hovel, preceded by his savage band, one of whom, carrying a

golden axe, demonstrative of his despotic power, paraded before him.

We proposed coffee and pipes to his royal highness, but he preferred a tumbler of rum, which he drank off with great relish. He informed us of his intention immediately to proceed to the field, and left us to prepare. The regards of all followed him, although, most certainly, they were not those of admiration or love, but they followed a prince: and so prone are men to pursue dignities, even in the shape in which they now presented themselves, that we soon joined him, though every moment in danger of being shot, either by himself, or some of his banditti, none of whom would miss the chance of killing a partridge, to save the life of a *Pesavank Yahour*, [Infidel Pimp] a name with which they frequently honour us.

The morning was damp, and some rain dropped occasionally. The sport was but trifling, and few birds or beasts were taken. Again the day smiled, but it was a sarcastic smile. A gleam of sunshine fell upon the prince, which a hasty cloud soon threw on the ruins of Ephesus, while the distant thunder seemed to murmur, "is not all vanity?"

Some grew tired of princely pleasure, others continued the tedious chase, but the prince himself at length grew wearied of unsuccessful labour, and left the field.

Our author's commercial engagements presented him with a favourable opportunity of becoming acquainted with the trade of Constantinople and Smyrna; that opportunity he has embraced; and he states particulars at some length; but he gives a much less satisfactory account of the extent of trade, at the former, and of the mode of payment at the latter city, than we were prepared to expect.

The commerce of Constantinople is nothing, comparatively speaking, to what it appears to be.

But although the trade of Constantinople is limited, when compared with that of Smyrna, it is far better to prosecute on account of the difference both in the payments and the returns; in Smyrna, for many articles it rarely happens that you can get the amount of your account in less than two or even three years, although the goods are nominally sold at three or six months; whereas, in Constantinople, should a sale be made at three months, before the end of six you may in general depend on payment in cash, which is remitted in good bills of exchange; but from Smyrna it is seldom that funds can be withdrawn but in produce, on which, in general, the loss far surpasses the fine profit

you had flattered yourself with in making your sales.

What is the *present* state of Constantinople cannot be known, even from so late a writer as Mr. Macgill: for since his residence there, the unfortunate Selim has fallen a victim to the bigotted barbarity of his troops. That Sultan did all in his power to promote the prosperity of his subjects: we have often pitied his patriotic feelings, and his unmerited fate.

In Constantinople and its environs there are at present nearly ten thousand looms at work: this must yield no small profit to the state, as the materials are chiefly the produce of the country.

Farther up in this new town (Scutari) is the printing office, established, as I have before mentioned, by the reigning Sultan, (Selim)—in contradiction to the ruling superstition of the people; it is upon a pretty extensive plan for the beginning of a building of the kind; there are at present about ten presses going. Several persons are employed in translating useful books, and many are already printed in a very beautiful manner upon the paper made at the Sultan's manufactory upon the canal, and before leaving the office are bound either richly or plainly, according to the taste of the purchaser. Books of geography are printed, and also maps of all the different parts of the world, pretty accurately, in the Turkish characters. We saw besides, Captain Cook's voyages, and the elements of Euclid, in quarto: not being versed in the Turkish language, we could not judge if they were well translated, but the translator being a man of great abilities, there is little doubt but that he has done justice to his countryman Cook. It is generally supposed that justice has been done to Euclid.

Besides the manufactories already mentioned, we found that many others equally useful, are carried on at Scutari; they print and dye an immense quantity of India, British, and German muslins, here and all over the environs of the capital: they make charming colours, which are more durable than those in almost any other country.

The machinations of Buonaparte, have certainly been directed against Turkey: whether they will fail, as his mission to Persia appears to have failed; whether his late agreement with Austria, has removed the difficulties, started by that power, against their execution; or whether he may quarrel with Russia, before the time comes for his attempt on Turkey,

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are subjects of speculation, and guess; but not of reasonable certainty. It would be well, however, if the Turks were prepared for the worst; for to say truth, our opinion inclines rather to fear, than to hope on their behalf. But as already hinted, the event, whatever it be, we must leave to the operation of time, and the decrees of fate.

Analytical Review of the Medical Department of the British Army. By Charles Maclean, M. D. 8vo. pp. 224. Price 5s. 6d. Stockdale, London, 1810.

"Doctors differ," is a proverb not in favour of the medical profession. They differ as honest practitioners, meaning to prescribe the best mode of treatment, each according to his judgment, as an upright man; they differ as they have acquired knowledge and skill, from the cases they have seen, the climates they have visited, or other incidental circumstances: and they differ, says Dr. Maclean, according to the party they adopt, and the patronage they solicit. The last is the worst difference of all; especially, if it have contributed to the late losses of the British armies, on actual service. Those who consider themselves as having access to the most correct information, represent the sufferings of our troops, (at all times considerable, out of their own country) as unusual and even enormous. This may, probably, excite the attention of Parliament, when allegations so serious as those comprised in this essay, will, we trust, receive adequate examination, and the grievances complained of be effectually abolished. Considering this, as a party pamphlet, we give no opinion on its merits. It contains serious charges against the present manner of conducting the medical establishment of the army, against the medical board, its partiality, prejudice, misplaced patronage, &c. &c. which we hope and trust, are not true; or to say the least that they are greatly exaggerated.

That the nation is deeply concerned in this investigation, besides its loss of invaluable lives, appears from the magnitude of the concern; to convey some idea of this we extract a single paragraph only, referring the general question to authorities more competent to decide on it.

In consequence of multiplied jobs, we have had, for the last twelve years, since the privilege of supplying their medicines was taken from the regimental surgeons, the enormous annual sum of £67,340, to pay to the apothecary-general. "His charges from the 1st. January, 1795, to the 31st. of December, 1806, including £72,919 4s. 8d. for surgical instruments, have amounted to £809,088 17s. or £67,340. per annum on an average." (See Fifth Report, page 39.) The annual expence subsequent to 1806 must be much greater than this average. While the annual charge to the Navy has been only at the rate of £17,500. per annum (ib. p. 58,) and that to the Ordnance during the years 1804 and 1805, £6,825 15s. 1d. being an annual average of £3,412 17s. 6d, the number of men being above twenty thousand five hundred, and of horses eight thousand five hundred. I may here remark on the impropriety of dealing with Apothecaries' Hall on terms so unfavourable to the public, under the presumption of their goods being of superior quality. Their price for one article (either I am informed is 24 or 25s. per pound, while it can be procured from private manufacturers for one-third of the amount. On this subject the transport-board, and other public offices that may have occasion to deal with Apothecaries' Hall, ought to institute the strictest inquiries.

The whole expence of the army medical department, there is reason to believe, although from the various modes of making the payments, it is difficult to obtain a certainty, (5th Report, page, 87) may be estimated at about half-a-million sterling annually, including our foreign dependencies. And by a calculation, which I shall afterwards have occasion to make, it will appear that the present abuses in the medical department of the army occasion an useless expenditure to the nation of more than £100,000 annually, independently of the lives lost in consequence of its inefficiency and mal-organization; and which I shall estimate, at the rate at which they could be replaced, at £200,000 more. Thus the saving capable of being effected by the appointment of fit persons, under a system of proper regulations, to the head of the department, calculating moderately, will exceed in lives 4000, and in money £300,000 annually.

A Discourse on the Real Principles of the Revolution, the Bill of Rights, Act of Settlement, &c. in which the Representations of Sir Francis Burdett, Mr. Maddox, and others are considered; their Ignorance and their Falsehood exposed, and their

Real Views detected; being the Substance of Three Lectures, delivered in Trinity Term, 1809, by the Gresham Lecturer in Civil Law. 8vo. pp. 80, Price 3s. Hatchard, London.

SINCE the boasted liberties of this country know no partiality in their application, and the privilege of speaking and writing, and publishing what every one pleases, is arrogated alike by all, no man ought to be offended or surprised if in the exercise of that privilege, a difference of opinion on any point should happen to subsist. No person who is a lover of the truth, will be backward to consider any representation of a case or question, which professes to be founded on argument and fact, although it should differ from that view in which it hath been previously regarded by himself. And much good will always arise from such a consideration, for in proportion as reason is exercised and prejudice laid aside, truth will prevail.

In all political questions every individual will have an opinion; but, comparatively, very few individuals have the study of politics for their proper occupation, or have leisure for the just contemplation of any subject which is not the immediate business of their lives. Opinions therefore, in matters of this sort, will too often be adopted hastily on a partial view, which further consideration may correct, or be imposed by an authority which hath obtained a greater weight than it deserves, or be founded upon a relation of facts which is not true, or upon a representation of them which is false and treacherous. In all these cases the cause of truth will be promoted by argument and discussion. Persons, however, no doubt are to be found, upon whom, because they are wedded to their own conceit, or because they have some private and unacknowledged object in view, argument exerts its force in vain, and truth shines but cannot enlighten. Such men must be abandoned to the error of their own minds; and, if they are themselves only affected by it, they will be the objects merely of compassion. But if [their] error extends itself to the perversion of the minds of other men, and especially if its views affect the state, it becomes every one's interest and a public duty to expose it. Private individuals will usually decline entering upon a controversy in which, as they are no more concerned than others, they are sensible of no proper duty of their own. But if any one standing in some public capacity, beholds the particular point which it is his office to illustrate and to teach, made the subject of perversion and misrepresentation by artful and designing men, it becomes his immediate duty to meet the effort and expose the fraud.

Such is the Gresham Lecturer's apology for exposing the fallacies he discovers in the speeches and sentiments of certain orators named in his title page, delivered *after dinner*, at a meeting of their party. The contempt we attach, to all party meetings, from which enlightened discussion is banished, as a matter of course, inclines us to think that orations of this description should never be noticed:—who recollects them after the dinner bill is paid? Let our public officers of instruction do their duty, by disseminating correct sentiments, luminous statements, and legitimate inferences: let them produce the principles of the constitution, in their genuine purity, and not like certain parts of Shakespeare's text "elucidated into obscurity;" and the public (both of the present time, and future ages) will receive their labours with gratitude. If there be *canons* admitted by both sides as containing sacred and indefeasible truths, let these be rendered familiar among our population, their provisions be set in the clearest light, and their appointments, be, as some learned authors boast on their title pages, "made easy to the meanest capacity." If we might advise, no man should be suffered to speechify about *Magna Charta*, till he had given proof of having read that important, but not common, state paper: and if, whenever the Bill of Rights was intended to be appealed to, *five hundred* copies of it with the subsequent enactments, by which it was modified, were printed for distribution among the company, we should think such symptoms of fairness, entitled to commendation. Whether an equal, or superior, share of commendation might not be due to that candour which lent attention to the arguments of an opponent, and considered his reasonings, without overwhelming them by hisses, and clamour, might justify the consideration of our public assemblies. And to conclude, (for subjects of this nature being rarely favourable to our good humour, we are glad to dismiss them) we desire John Bull to take notice that his affairs will never prosper to his complete satisfaction, till he can bring himself to hear both sides of a question, and to form his opinion after due deliberation on the merits of the case.

That our public orators will accept this advice, we doubt:—we doubt, too, whether they will that of the Gresham Lecturer.

JUBILEE SERMONS.

THAT the late Jubilee, which employed the pens of many in composing discourses, should also employ the press in communicating not a few of such discourses to the public, and in extending their principles and illustrations beyond the walls of those edifices in which they were delivered, was to be expected by all who know the ready access which literature and loyalty find to the public. It is not within our power to notice that mass of them which duty, or accident, has induced us to peruse. Generally speaking, much good advice, and *teaching*, were addressed to the auditories on that occasion. It is true, that some preachers, willing to carry the principle of comprehension to the utmost, thought it not unbecoming to include the acts of the administration, in their commendations of the personal character of the monarch: others discovered in the term *Jubilee* much more than we had been in the habit of supposing; with a closer correspondence in minute particulars between the Hebrew institution and the British commemoration, than sound criticism warranted. A general similitude was all our judgment allowed us to find in the two festivals; and those who exerted their talents in discussing the merits or demerits of ministry, or of certain determinations of the legislature, in our humble apprehension, forced a connection between articles, that propriety and good taste would have preserved distinct.

But, though we trust the reverend and worthy authors who have favoured us with an opportunity of perusing their sentiments, will not take offence at our omitting particular notice of their performances, since we cannot insert them all, nor even a *fair* proportion of them, yet we shall allot a few pages of our work, to a specimen of the sermons published on that occasion. It has given us pleasure, to observe, that, with little exception, there has been a near conformity in the principles promulgated by divines of all denominations. That those who differ on public subjects, should completely coincide on this, was not to be expected; to have indulged any such hope, would have manifested a very imperfect knowledge of mankind. Nevertheless, considered on the whole, there has been

little diversity of sentiment, and very little perversity of manner. The Churchman, the Dissenter, the Catholic, has addressed to his flock, exhortations tending to unity among brethren, to cordiality among Christians, and to loyalty among Britons.

The articles which follow, are, in fact, not properly a selection; they are the first which happened to come to our hands; they were also the first we perused. They are the productions of a Churchman and Magistrate; of a Churchman, but (we believe) no Magistrate; and of a Dissenter. In this order we shall review them.

The National Jubilee, celebrative of the Fiftieth [49th] Anniversary of the Reign of George the Third, politically and morally improved. By a Magistrate. 8vo. pp. xviii. 74. Price 3s. Mathews and Leigh, London, 1809.

THIS worthy gentleman, who describes himself as "an insignificant village pastor," in a style somewhat peculiar, though certainly energetic, introduces many observations in which we acquiesce: his discourse, however, rather needs than bears analysis; and he certainly should have named the writings which have furnished his numerous quotations and references. Among others he has honoured the *Panorama* by inserting an extract, the writer of which he qualified as "very ingenious:" but, if he has not quoted other writers more correctly, their evidence in support of his suggestion is proportionately incomplete.

We take advantage of this gentleman's labours to introduce a few facts, honourable to his majesty; from which at the same time our readers may judge of this writer's talent at composition.

Our pious sovereign,—when three of his chaplains in succession were so unmindful of the sacred dignity of their office, as to be lavish of their eulogiums in the house of God, and in his immediate presence, he is known to have said with becoming disgust, that "he came thither to hear the praises of God—not, *his own*."—See letters of correspondence between bishops Warburton and Hurd: in which this anecdote is well authenticated.

With more immediate reference to the event we are now celebrating—is it a trifling circumstance, that we have had a sovereign on the throne for half an age, to whom we

may without any suspicion of flattery very confidently apply the characteristic epithets of *pious, pacific, and munificent*?

To his public devotion the witnesses are innumerable: but, there is no greater proof perhaps of undissembled piety of heart, than when it diffuses itself into the more private and familiar actions. An instance of this, I beg leave to introduce here—because I am persuaded it cannot be much known; but which I can authenticate by every thing short of personal certainty. An application was once made to the benevolent compassion of his majesty—out of the due order—by a person, who was reduced with a large family to extreme distress. It succeeded far beyond his hopes. He was so overpowered by the graciousness and extent of the benefaction, as, upon receiving it, to fall on his knees, and, with a flood of grateful tears, to thank and bless the donor for his goodness. "Rise," said the condescending sovereign, "and go and thank God, for having disposed my heart to relieve your necessities."

On the *virtues* of the throne it is superfluous to add any thing: the nation itself has been uniformly eloquent on that theme: and, whatever untoward and fortuitous incidents may have occurred, in the collision of states, to superinduce the calamities of war, it is too obvious, to require any distinct proof, that there was nothing in the disposition of our sovereign to provoke it. It is perfectly understood, that he would much rather have cultivated and encouraged all the more amiable arts of peace, taste, and science. He has spent more than ten thousand pounds in the advancement of a single branch of the *Cyclopædia*. "When I was last in England," says one of our foreign literati, "I had the honour of expressing to this prince my grateful acknowledgment for the liberal protection he gave to the arts and sciences:" to which he made this sensible and humane reply—"This is surely much better than to waste money in promoting the slaughter of mankind."

The pen of historic truth will have the satisfaction to record, unless I greatly err, that, in the character of this illustrious personage, there was nothing of the rapacity and despotism of the Norman invader: of the violence and perfidiousness of William Rufus: of the implacability and voluptuousness of the first Henry: of the jealousy and re-

* The same thing has been continually celebrated by the most distinguished literati and artists of our own country. Nor should it pass entirely unnoticed, that, amidst all the extreme cares and solitudes necessarily attached to his regal situation, he has not been inattentive to agricultural improvements.

sentments of Stephen the usurper: of the incontinence and instability of the second Henry: of the insuperable pride and haughtiness of Richard the first: of the cowardice, licentiousness, and treachery of John: of the profusion and inconstancy of the third Henry: of the ambition and illiberality of his successor: of the imbecility and indolence of the second Edward: of the love of false glory, which distinguished the third: of the vanity and frivolousness of Richard the second: of the enormities of injustice, which tarnished the reign of the fourth Henry: of the imperiousness of the fifth: of the ignoble apathy of the sixth: of the cruelty and indecency of Edward the fourth: of the dissimulation and barbarity of Richard the third: of the selfishness and avarice of the seventh Henry: or, of the arrogance, bigotry, and brutality of the eighth: nothing again of the puerility, capriciousness, and pedantry, of the first James—of the unfortunate passion for power, or the uxorious weakness, to which his successor fell a sacrifice—or of the effeminate voluptuousness and unprincipled libertinism of his Son: nothing, in short, of the obstinate superstition of James the second—or, of the cold and reserved insensibility of the third William. Is it any wonder then, that there has been scarcely a single subject of patriotic, moral, or religious excellence in the British empire, during the long period of his sway, which has not felt a pleasure in celebrating the amiable and respectable traits in the character of George the third?

WHOM GOD PRESERVE!

The text is Math. xxii.-21. "*Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's: and unto God the things that are God's.*" A happy choice of a text for a clerical magistrate.

The Righteousness of a King, the Blessedness of the People, a Sermon, preached at West-Tilbury, Essex, on Wednesday, October 25, 1809, &c. By Rev. Sir Adam Gordon, Bart. Rector of that Parish. 8vo. pp. 40. Price 1s. 6d. Stockdale, London.

SIR ADAM says it is a frequent custom with him to present his parishioners, about the close of the year with some serious tract of a *pastoral* description—he therefore intreats their acceptance of this humble, but *affectionate* offering. There is something in this custom which strikes us as worthy of consideration. If a pastor should *affectionately* represent to his parishioners, those particulars in which their conduct has appeared to deserve praise, and those in which his duty leads

him to desire amendment, perhaps a few years might afford cause of congratulation to them and to himself, on account of disgraceful evils checked, if not subdued, or of happy improvements introduced, and visible superiority of manners obtained. The text is Psalm cxviii.-24. *This is the day which the Lord hath made, we will rejoice, and be glad in it.* The tenor of the discourse may be deduced from the following extract:

Towards *our* gracious sovereign,—mercy on mercy, hath been evidenced for his protection. *E. G.*—How many violent encroachments on his government have been frustrated!—What secret and foul seditions have been crushed in the *bud*!—What open and desperate assassinations of his sacred person have been prevented!—From what deep and base machinations of both foreign, and domestic foes,—from what rash and ungrateful attacks of those in whom he might have hoped to place the securest confidence, hath he been delivered!—From what afflictive and alarming bodily maladies hath he been recovered!—And whilst all the crowned heads, and *once* mighty potentates of Europe, have suddenly been deprived of their hereditary rights, and power, or are dwindling into mere vassals to a blasphemous and barbarous tyrant—our aged, upright monarch, stands firm upon the throne of his ancestors, secure in the love and veneration of his people, and ultimately trusting in the irresistible support of his God and Saviour.—Now to what, my brethren,—can we attribute all these wonderful interferences, but to the marked hand of Divine preference, and over-ruling dominion—to the invincible shield of omnipotent protection!—

Sir Adam tells us, p. 10. that the word *Jubilee* "which is *Hebrew*, both in that and the *Latin* tongue, signifies *A DAY of public festivity and rejoicing*:"—to this we beg leave to demur. David Levi derives *Jubilee* (the feast) from *Jubal* the trumpet of rams' horns, with which the feast was proclaimed: and Parkhurst from the blast of the trumpet, the air carried along with it. We would include the winding form of the instrument; for, certainly the ram's horn is generally curved; and the word elsewhere signifies a water-course, which usually is meandering. Parkhurst might have quoted Gray:

Now the rich stream of music winds along,
Deep, majestic, smooth, and strong,
Through verdant vales:—

Latin authority on a *Hebrew* word ought not to have been mentioned.

Righteousness the Dignity and Ornament of Old Age. A Sermon preached at Pell-Street Meeting-House, Ratcliffe-Highway, on Wednesday, October 25, 1809, being the day on which His Majesty King George the III^d. entered the Fiftieth Year of his Reign. By Thomas Cloutt. 8vo. pp. 38. Price 1s. Conder, London, 1809.

MR. CLOUTT selects his text from Proverbs xvi.-21. *The hoary head is a crown of glory if it be found in the way of righteousness.* He describes the hoary head not found in the way of righteousness; the hoary head of the *infidel*;—he explains the term way (walk, progress) of righteousness; and calls us to contemplate “an aged monarch, in whom so many duties center, whose example and influence is so widely extended and powerfully efficacious, walking in the way of righteousness.”

This last, this most felicitating object, we are, this day invited to contemplate, not as brought to our recollection by the painted canvass, the sculptured marble, the brazen tablet, the sepulchral monument, the page of history, the memorials of what has been, nor, as the evanescent picture of the imagination, presented only from fancy to fancy, a visionary phantom, remote from sensible observance; but as it exists in all the glowing attractions of real life, a suitable object for our admiration and homage, our gratitude, love and praise. Our venerable sovereign now bears his hoary locks upon him, his eyes are dim with age, he is travelling to his long home—we shall soon see his face no more, for in a short time, he will be gathered to his fathers. *He is not*, (thanks to the God of our mercies, who hath called him to his kingdom of glory), *just now entered into the way we have described, but has been so long and uniformly in it, that even malice itself scarcely attempts to cast an imputation on his personal and private character.* His virtues as a man, a husband, and a father, are resounded throughout the empire. In an age of infidelity, profligacy and lukewarmness, he has continued firm in his Christian profession; pure in his morals; frequent, regular, and exemplary in his attendance on the offices and sacred institutions of our most holy religion. In these respects his light shines before men. We cannot penetrate the recesses of the heart, and it would be highly presumptuous in me to attempt to determine, what is known only to God, how far his exterior deportment is regulated by those motives and sentiments, which are approved by him who seeth not as man seeth, and who judgeth

righteous judgment. But a tree is known by its fruits, and causes by their effects; and we may, therefore, be allowed to indulge the pleasing hope, that he is in retirement what he appears in the world; that he is in the closet what he appears in the temple: that he indeed “walks with God,” and daily looks up to him as his director, guardian, friend, and everlasting portion.

As the ruler of his people, has he not, generally speaking, and as far as can be expected from frail humanity, executed righteousness among us, swayed his sceptre in love, and reigned in the affections of his subjects? If there have been, as indeed there have, distressing events for these realms in the course of his long reign, we ought not to be too ready to look to him as the source of all the evils we have endured, but to remember, that *had he been personally corrupted and vicious, there is every reason to suppose, our privations and sufferings would have been aggravated far beyond their present extent.*

He has encouraged and promoted the diffusion of knowledge among his people, even the poorest of them,* and thus shewn himself averse to that infernal policy which would bind down the minds of the inferior orders of society in the chains of savage ignorance and link them with the brute creation; and desirous of preserving to them their hereditary dignity and freedom, of expanding their faculties, of raising them from mental and moral darkness, from circumstances of misery and degradation, to those stations of respectability, usefulness, and happiness, a kind providence intended they should occupy in the world.

Mr. C. as becomes a dissenter, pays a just tribute of praise to his majesty's sense of the duty of toleration in religious matters—to his assent to the abolition of the slave trade—and he fervently prays for the welfare of the “house of Brunswick, to sway the British sceptre,”—and for “the spirit of repentance and reformation upon all degrees and orders of men among us, that iniquity may not prove our ruin.” Every loyal Briton will unite with every real Patriot, in these sentiments and in these petitions.

* “It was a noble wish, which our aged and venerable monarch is said to have lately expressed to Mr. Lancaster, the benevolent projector of these schools, “I would have every poor child in the nation able to read the Bible!” This was a saying worthy the head of the Protestant established church—it was a jewel in his crown, whose lustre shall never fade away.”—Sermon on the importance of educating the poor.—By J. Evans, A. M. His patronizing Mr. Lancaster's system of education is well known.

A Sermon preached in the Parish Church of St. Mary, Stratford, Bow, in the County of Middlesex; on the Opening of the East-London Water-Works, October 23, 1809, by the Rev. Edw. Rolson, M. A. Vicar of Orston, Notts; Lecturer of Whitechapel; and Chaplain to the Hon. Corporation of the Trinity House. Printed for the East-London Water-Works' Company. London: 1809.

THIS is an ingenious discourse: the subject is uncommon, and new to the pulpit. Many considerations press upon us the duty of gratitude to the author of all good for *hourly* mercies; these we too often forget through inattention, or suffer to escape us unnoticed, through custom and habit. Could the sufferings experienced by some of our British sailors, on long voyages, for want of water, be described in adequate terms, they would—they must affect the sympathising bosom. We know, that nothing more sensibly vexes a true sailor, than the sight of water running to waste. Even in our own country, there are districts where good water is scarce; but no part of Britain is exposed to those miseries which are endured in the East, from this cause. To these Mr. R. has happily alluded in the following paragraph.

Here, in this happy land, it is to be feared that we do not estimate as we ought, many of the blessings which we enjoy. The necessities of life are far more valuable than its luxuries. The absence of luxuries soon ceases to be felt as a grievance; but, by a privation of necessities, life is rendered a burthen, and its duration is commonly shortened. The temperate breezes which we inhale, the fertile earth which we cultivate, the wholesome water which we drink; these, these deserve, beyond all things, the tribute of thanksgiving to Almighty God. A pampered and depraved soul is incompetent to enjoy the pure pleasures they give; and ill does he deserve them, who feels not in his bosom a sensation of gratitude to the author and giver of all good things. — Unthankful and unholy wretch! learn the value of the things, thou lightly esteemest, by the want of them. Look at that long line of weary travellers, making their arduous way across the sultry desert. Thou expectest to indulge in the luxuries they bring thee: see what those luxuries cost: calculate, if thou canst, the sum of human suffering at which they are procured. With what pain do they print their footsteps in the burning sand. The horses which they bestrode when their journey com-

menced, have fallen by the way. Thou mayest see the carcasses of some preyed on by vultures; and the bones of others whitening in the parching air. Thirst, thirst, not hunger, has destroyed them! And many a rider lies dead beside his horse. The camel alone survives, formed by wise providence to endure for many days the want of water to drink. And now, even the camel is ready to sink under his toil; and his master most reluctantly, is compelled to slay him, to save his own life by [See Bruce.] drinking the rapid fluid intended by Nature to relieve the distress of his beast. Or, if the caravan be enabled to reach some spot marked at a distance by a grove of palm-trees, (the usual sign of a spring in the desert;) behold animals and men contending for a nauseous mixture of brackish water, mud, insects, dung, and all unclean-ness!

If this, unfeeling creature, move thee not; —look at that dungeon in a scorching climate, contracted in dimensions, lighted by one small aperture, [Black Hole at Calcutta, A. D. 1756.] and filled with captive Englishmen; —hear their cries! hear them insulting their inhuman guards, in the hope of provoking them to put an end to their torments by depriving them of their lives. In vain! —Delirium succeeds. But, amidst the groans of death, and the shrieks of phrenzy—one word is plainly distinguishable, one word is clearly articulated, —WATER! —Now, thoughtless man, learn the value of that element which thou hast not hitherto, perhaps, duly prized.

I confess, it ever gives me sensible pleasure to see, generally speaking, the metropolis so amply supplied with water. In a city so extended and populous, nothing more effectually tends to prevent the ravages of pestilence, humanly speaking, than the water which streams through our streets, conveying to all but such abject and indolent people as will not use it, the means of cleanliness, comfort, and health. —Pass with me for a minute, (whither my feet have often led me, in the discharge of the humble duties of a * parish-priest,) into the narrow alley, or closely confined court. Let me lead you up the steep and narrow staircase into the chamber of poverty; and there take your stand with me by the bed of sickness. Every breath you inhale is fraught with danger; and the air, charged with putrescence, would soon be sublimated, by animal heat, to such a degree of vaporous contagion, as no antiseptic could resist. But suddenly the sound of running water is heard. A hundred vessels receive it; liberally thrown upon the floors, it streams down the stairs; all sorts of implements are put in motion; the seeds of infection are washed away; the air is purified; the drooping revive; and the sick recover.

* Mr. R. was Curate of Whitechapel for 28 years.

LITERARY REGISTER.

Authors, Editors, and Publishers are particularly requested to forward to the Literary Panorama Office, post-paid, the titles, prices, and other particulars of works in hand, or published, for insertion in this department of the work.

WORKS ANNOUNCED FOR PUBLICATION.

Architecture.

Mr. Wm. Wilkins, author of the *Antiquities of Magna Grecia*, proposes to publish, in the ensuing spring, in an imperial quarto volume, a Translation of the *Civil Architecture of Vitruvius*, illustrated by numerous engravings, executed by Lowry.

Architectural Antiquities.

Mr. Britton has just completed the second volume of the *Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain*. It contains seventy prints, with a History and description of each; also an Essay on the Rise, Progress, and Characteristics of Domestic Architecture in England. The third volume is intended to embrace Accounts with various Architectural Illustrations of Castle Acre Priory Church, Norfolk: Waltham Abbey Church, Essex: the Collegiate Church, at Manchester: Heddingham Castle, Essex: Roslyn Chapel, Scotland: St. George's Chapel, Windsor: the Crypt, St. Peter's Church, Oxford, &c. &c. This Work is continued in Quarterly Parts, each containing seven engravings, with letter press descriptions. It is printed on quarto paper, at 10s. 6d. each Part, and a few copies are worked on superfine Imperial paper, with the first Impressions of the Plates, at 16s. each Part. The whole is to be completed in Four Volumes.

Biography.

The Rev. Josiah Pratt is preparing two Volumes for the press, one of which will contain *Memoirs of Young Men*, and the other *Memoirs of Young Women*. These *Memoirs* are compiled or abridged from authentic documents, and are designed to illustrate the nature and operation of real Religion. The subjects are selected from the various classes in society, and are limited to that period of life, (from about fifteen to thirty years of age) when the efficacy of religion is most clearly asserted by its victory over the snares and allurements which beset the youthful mind. Any person possessed of scarce and interesting pieces of biography suited to this purpose, will greatly oblige the Editor by informing him in a line addressed to him in Doughty-street, Guildford-street, London.

The first volume of the Works of the Rev. Richard Cecil, containing the *Memoirs of the Hon. and Rev. W. B. Cadogan*, of John Bacon, Esq. M. A. and of the Rev. John

Newton, with three portraits, will appear this month.

Dr. Aikin has in the press, in two octavo volumes, *Memoirs of the Life of Peter Daniel Huet*, bishop of Avranches, translated from the original of Huet himself, with the addition of copious notes, critical and biographical.

Chemistry.

Dr. Stancilffe is preparing for publication a volume of *Chemical Experiments*, for the Use of Students, consisting of nearly one thousand, in various branches of the science.

Drama.

English Comedy, in 6 volumes; a collection of classical Dramas, separated from the licentious productions of Farquhar, Congreve, Centlivre, &c. will be published in January.

A New Edition of the late Dr. Dodd's *Beauties of Shakspeare*, is nearly ready for delivery.

History.

Major Samuel Dales has in the press, in an octavo volume, an *Essay on the Study of the History of England*.

Mr. Johnes is proceeding at the Hafod press with his *Series of Chronicles*, and that of Monstrelet is so far advanced, that it is expected to appear early next month.

Mathematics.

The Ninth Number of *Leybourn's Mathematical Repository*, containing besides various articles, solutions to the mathematical questions proposed in the Seventh Number, and a Series of New Questions to which he solicits answers from his correspondents. The Number here announced completes the Second Volume of the Work. The Two Volumes contain, 1. two hundred and forty questions, both in pure and mixt mathematics, almost all of which are entirely new, and in general each is accompanied with several solutions by different Mathematicians; 2. thirty-three Original Essays on Mathematical subjects; 3. Several Mathematical *Memoirs*, extracted from works of eminence, chiefly the *Transactions of learned societies*.

Medicine.

Mr. Wm. Hamilton, of Magdalen Hall, will speedily publish the *Enchiridion Medicum*, or *Young Practitioner's Pocket Companion*, being a *Conspectus of the new Pharmacopœias of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin*.

Dr. Uwins, of Aylesbury, has in the press, just ready for publication, a small Tract, entitled *Cursory Remarks on the Causes, Prevention and Treatment of Fever*, occasioned by the recent occurrences of an epidemic disorder in Aylesbury and its neighbourhood.

Miscellaneous.

A new and enlarged Edition of Wood's

Oxonienſis is in preparation, and the firſt Volume is nearly ready for the preſs.

A Selection from the *Hesperides* of Robert Herrick, with Notes, and an engraving of the head of the author by Schiavonetti, is printing at Bristol; alſo a Selection from the *Juvenilia* of George Wither, both of which are in a ſtate of forwardneſs.

The Third Canto of the *Pursuits of Agriculture* will be ready in the courſe of the month.

Dr. Duigenan is about to publiſh a Pamphlet, relative to the State of Ireland and the Romiſh Queſtion.

Mr. John Joſeph Stockdale has in great forwardneſs The *Covent Garden Journal*, conſiſting of a complete Hiſtory of the whole of the late extraordinary competition in regard to the riſe of the Prices of Admiſſion to that Theatre. It will contain alſo an Account of all the Judicial Proceedings, Caricatures, and Medals, and Copies of all the Placards and Controverſial Papers that have been written on the Subject, a Hiſtory of the New Building, &c. &c. with numerous Plates.

Mr. Thelwall has announced for publication, at the beginning of the month, a Letter to Mr. Cane, on Defective Developements of the Human Faculties, Moral and Mental, as well as Conſtitutional and Organic; and on the treatment of Impediments of Speech. The principal object of this work is the elucidation of the diſtinction between physical or incurable idiocy, and that which is aſſignable to mental and moral cauſes, and which Mr. T. regards as capable of mitigation and remedy, by means of ſystematic and appropriate management: but in the courſe of this investigation ſeveral topics riſing out of Mr. T.'s mode of treating Impediments of Speech, ſuch as the physical cauſes of Rhythmus and Euphony in language, and their critical application in appreciating the language and verſification of our moſt celebrated poets are diſcuſſed. Several philoſophical communications from Mr. Gough and others are alſo inwoven in the text, or ſuperadded in the Appendix.

Mr. Thelwall has alſo ready for delivery, another publication, The *Vestibule of Eloquence*, conſiſting of original Articles, oratorical and poetical, intended for recitation among pupils, at the Inſtitution in Bedford Place; with an Introductory Diſcourſe, and Plan and Terms of Inſtruction; &c. The recitations in this work are ſo printed, as to illuſtrate to a certain degree Mr. T.'s ſystem of rhythmus, and facilitate in this reſpect, the ſtudies of the pupil: the quantities of the ſupernumerary vowels being marked by what is uſually called the ſhort accent, ſo as to evince the non-neceſſity of what this profeſſor denominates the barbarous cuſtom of elision. Spaces are alſo left for the inſertion of the

cuſtomy notations uſed by Mr. T. in his ſystem of inſtruction.

In the firſt week of the preſent year will be publiſhed a new and improved edition, being the ſeventh, of the *Laboratory, or School of Arts*.

The *Eccleſiaſtical and University Annual Register* for the preſent year, is in great forwardneſs, and will be publiſhed on the firſt of next month.

On the 2nd January, 1810, will appear, for the firſt time, a German Newspaper, in one ſheet, 4to. and be continued twice a week, Tueſdays and Fridays, by Meſſrs. Vogel and Schulze, Poland-ſtreet, Oxford-ſtreet.

Poetry.

Shortly will be publiſhed, *Poems, &c.* ſelected from the poſthumous papers of John Dawes Morgan, late of Briſtol, and a Sketch of his life and character; by an early aſſociate and friend; with an Introductory Preface by William Hayley, Eſq.

The *Favourite Village*, with an additional Poem never before publiſhed, by the late Poetry Profeſſor of Oxford, Dr. Hurd, will be publiſhed in a few weeks.

A new Edition of Mr. Headley's *Select Beauties of Ancient English Poetry*, with a Biographical Sketch by the Rev. Mr. Keit of Oxford, will appear in the courſe of the month.

Statistics.

Mr. Jephſon Oddy, the author of *European Commerce*, and who conteſted the representation of Stamford againſt the Exeter Inter-eſt is engaged in a work on the Political commercial, local inter-eſts of the Country, particularly as they will be promoted by the intended Stamford Navigation, of which he was the projector.

Theology.

A new Edition of the *Theological and Miscellaneous Works* of the late Rev. Wm. Jones, of Nayland, in ſix large octavo volumes, will appear early in the enſuing year.

The Rev. R. Gentleman has in the preſs a new Edition of plain and affectionate Addreſſes to Youth, which will appear in the courſe of next month.

A third Edition of the late Wm. Sandford's *Catechetical Lectures* will ſhortly appear, to which will be prefixed a brief ſummary of his life.

Mr. Hodgſon, rector of St. George's, Hanover ſquare, is preparing a collective Edition of the works of his venerable relation, the late Biſhop of London, to which will be prefixed a life of the author, founded on the moſt authentic materials.

Dr. Laurence is preparing for the preſs, from the papers of his late brother, a volume of *Critical Observations on the New Testa-*

ment, particularly on the prophecies in the Revelation.

Topography.

Dr. Edmonston will shortly publish in two octavo volumes, a View of the ancient and present State of the Shetland Islands.

Sir Richard Colt Hoare, bart. has now at press the History of ancient Wiltshire, and the first part illustrated by several plates, will appear early in the spring.

Travels.

Travels through the States of the Empire of Morocco in the year 1806, by Dr. Buffa, Physician to the Forces, will be published very shortly in an octavo volume; his correspondence with that Court, relative to the Interests of Great Britain, including a Letter from the Emperor of Morocco himself to the King of Great Britain is prefixed to it.

WORKS PUBLISHED.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

A Treatise on the Diseases and Management of Sheep; with Introductory Remarks on their anatomical Structure; and an Appendix, containing Documents exhibiting the Value of the Merino Breed of Sheep, and their Progress in Scotland. By Sir George Stewart Mackenzie, Bart. Illustrated by 5 Plates, 8vo. 7s. 6d.

Astronomy.

Evening Amusements, for the Year 1810; being the seventh of the Series of Annual Volumes, for the Improvement of Students in Astronomy. By W. Friend, Esq. M. A. 12mo. 3s.

Biography.

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CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE REVIEW DEPARTMENT.

DR. OLINTHUS GREGORY'S SECOND ANSWER TO THE EDINBURGH REVIEWERS.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

Sir,—As the Edinburgh Reviewers have not only attacked my MORAL CHARACTER, in their last number, but have publicly pledged themselves to allow me no opportunity of defending it in their own work, I depend on your known liberality to admit a very few remarks as an immediate and temporary vindication of it.

Every attentive reader of their epistle to me will have observed,

1. That the Edinburgh Reviewers refused admission to a letter of mine, in which I proved, that, in a note of ten lines respecting my Treatise on Mechanics, they had told FOUR falsehoods.

2. That, on my publishing that letter elsewhere, they found its effects so powerful as to feel themselves under the "necessity" (as they acknowledge) of departing from their customary and safer plan of silence; and they attempted an elaborate reply.

3. That from this very reply it appears, that they did deliberately tell at least two falsehoods in the note before-mentioned.

4. That their subsequent charges of plagiarism in other instances,—resting on the same authority as that which has been pledged to two confessed falsehoods,—are unworthy of credit.

5. That their concluding declaration, that they now "*willingly* take leave of a subject which *no consideration* shall induce them to resume," by refusing me the opportunity of refuting their charges to the satisfaction of *all their* readers, is a palpable injustice, which they would not have hazarded, did they not *know*, or at least fear, that I *could* refute those charges.

Thus much will appear from merely perusing the epistle in the Edinburgh Review; upon which I beg leave to remark, further,

6. That the Edinburgh Reviewers, *self-convicted of two falsehoods* out of the four I charged them with, deny the charge respecting the *third*, by telling a *new falsehood*; and palliate the *fourth* by admitting that their language was ambiguous.

7. That in the preface to my Treatise on Mechanics, to which these "*honourable men*" think it prudent not to refer, I justified myself for not citing authorities in several instances in Vol. I., where some readers might think I ought to have done it, by observing, that "although I have not, for example, ascribed to Prony what I found in succession in the writings of Varignon, Belidor, Bezout, and d'Alembert, nor to Parkinson or Atwood, what had previously appeared in the writings of Galileo, Wilkins, Wallis, Desagulieres, or Emerson, esteeming whatever I found in such circumstances as *common property*, to be adopted without hesitation, yet, in *all cases* where I could speak confidently as to the *original* author, and particularly where the matter quoted had been but seldom published, I have not failed to make the corresponding reference.

8. That the five or six instances of pretended plagiarism, which the Edinburgh Reviewers have collected out of a work of more than 1050 pages, are almost all taken from the *second volume*, which is stated in the preface to be "*PROFESSEDLY A COMPILATION*," and for which I expressly say "*I have no other merit to claim*," than that of having consulted a great many volumes, and "*selected* such particulars as might be most serviceable to my countrymen when presented to them in a single moderate sized volume."

9. That, after a deliberate search, I will take upon me to affirm, that I have found only *one* place in which a reference that ought to have been made, has been, even accidentally, omitted. This relates to Venture's disquisition on the exhaustion of vessels through orifices in their bases, which I now regret having inserted, because, however elegant the investigation may appear, it is defective. Even here, however, I may remark, that only a few pages further on, (p. 433) I

refer expressly to Venture's work in such terms of commendation, as would induce any reader to consult it; which a man would hardly have done, who had wished to conceal his author.

10. That to this moment I do not know, (except from the disputable testimony of the Edinburgh Reviewers) that the article *thrashing machine*, which they charge me with stealing from the Encyclopædia Britannica, is *extant in that work*.

11. That they *MUST know*, that the account of *Verrier's mill*, which they charge me with stealing from Brewster's Ferguson, was taken from *Bailey's Collection of Machines in the Repository of the Society of Arts*, which was published more than 30 years ago: I say, *must know*, because I refer expressly to that work.

12. That the insinuation respecting a *new title page* of my "*Mechanics*" being printed instead of a *new edition*, is false.

With regard to Dr. Brewster, of whose name the Edinburgh Reviewers affect to avail themselves, I will only observe, that, instead of considering me as a "*plagiary*," he has more than once expressed his obligations to me, both personally and by letter, for the notice I have taken of his performances; that we have mutually communicated hints to each other, in the most friendly manner, for the improvement of our respective works: that he has spoken to me in the highest terms of the utility of my Treatise of Mechanics, and warmly recommended it in his own work, as well as in treatises he prefaced for the Encyclopædia Britannica, in the formation of which he declared my Treatise was of essential service to him, and that, even after the Edinburgh Reviewers' first attack upon me, he said that I could not perform a more important service to the British public, than by publishing the second volume separately, adding that it only wanted an essay on *wheel carriages* to make it complete, and that he should be much gratified if I would adopt the one he has inserted in his new edition of Ferguson's Lectures; this, however, I did not adopt, because I thought his theory incorrect.

In further vindicating my character it may be my duty on some future occasion, to develop the motives which have influenced the Edinburgh Reviewers on this occasion, to expose their settled design of depreciating whatever talent appears on *this side of the Tweed*, and to communicate to the world a collection of facts which I have long possessed to illustrate the *SECRET HISTORY* of their work.

I am, Sir, &c.

OLINTHUS GREGORY.

Royal Military Academy,
Woolwich, Dec. 14th, 1809.

PROPOSITA PHILANTHROPICA.

—Homo sum :

*Humani nihil a me alienum puto.*BIBLE SOCIETY AT PHILADELPHIA, IN
NORTH AMERICA.

The origin of this society is unquestionably to be attributed to the example offered, and the efforts made by "The British and Foreign Bible Society," instituted in London about five years since. The plan of that society, now that it is delineated and carried into effect, is seen to be so important, so practicable, and productive of so much good that we hardly know how to account for the fact, that it was not sooner devised and executed. Centuries have elapsed since the revival of letters and the art of printing have rendered it an enterprize less difficult than many which have been achieved, to furnish bibles in all the languages, and to distribute them into all the parts of Protestant Christendom. Yet, during that period, millions of those who have borne the christian name, have lived and died without a bible, for the want of some such association as has lately been formed in Britain. The example there set has already been followed in several countries of Europe, and we trust will soon be imitated in various parts of these United States.

Two systems were deliberately considered. One was to endeavour to form a large association, consisting of members selected from all the states.—The other was to establish a society, on a smaller scale, in Philadelphia.

A society for the whole of the United States seemed liable to almost insuperable objections. It was thought to be scarcely possible to form it in such a manner as not to occasion some dissatisfaction, even at the outset. It would be difficult and expensive for the members to attend the meetings. It would not be easy to agree on a place at which they should stately convene, nor to distribute bibles, [with sufficient care, through so wide a region as the plan would require. It was believed, in a word, that such an institution would never be conducted with vigour, nor be likely to continue for a length of time.

We hope the time is not distant, when we shall see institutions similar to our own in the town of Boston, and in the cities of New-Haven, New-York, Baltimore, Richmond, Charleston, and Savannah, and in the town of Lexington, in the state of Kentucky.

It is a fundamental article of our constitution, that all the copies of the bible which we distribute shall be separated from all notes and commentaries whatsoever, and, except the contents of the chapters, shall contain nothing but the sacred text.

It is the design of the Society, moreover, to endeavour, within its prescribed bounds, to distribute the bible in the native speech of all who shall be disposed to read it, so that, if possible, it may not remain a sealed book to any who desire to understand its contents. The English and German languages are the most generally used in Pennsylvania and its neighbouring states, and arrangements have already been made to obtain a large number of bibles in each of these tongues. It is known likewise, that bibles in Welsh and in French will be in demand, and it will be our endeavour that they shall not long be demanded in vain.

The bibles which they disperse, are offered "without money and without price."—

The poor, generally, will claim the peculiar notice of the Society; those who suffer from confinement or from crime, as well as from poverty,

Holy Scripture will penetrate and cheer the gloom of every prison in the state of Pennsylvania. The system of penal law, at present existing in this state, contemplates the reformation of criminals, as a part of the design of their punishment. And how is reformation to be produced or expected, without the influence of inspired truth? But beside criminals, there are in places of confinement, in poor-houses and in hospitals, a large number by whom the gift of a bible will be estimated highly.

There are many families in which a bible is not to be found, the heads of which might probably, without any great inconvenience, give for the book the price at which it is sold; and yet, partly through poverty, and principally through indifference, this possession, so necessary to every family, and so inexpressibly important to youth, never makes a part of their property. Families thus circumstanced, the Society will consider and relieve.

To the soldiers and sailors of our country we propose, so far as our means permit, to present this invaluable article of equipment.

On the frontiers of our country, where books of every kind are scarce, and where religious knowledge and instruction, in any form of communication, are scantily imparted, there will be a wide field, in which to scatter this precious seed of eternal truth and life. Under the auspices of several religious denominations, the civilizing and christianizing of the Indians is at present going forward, with the fairest prospects of success. It will be with us a favourite object to furnish, to the extent of our ability, those copies of the Sacred Scriptures, which will doubtless be in demand in the progress of this interesting work. Nor will the poor Africans, not only of Pennsylvania but of some other states, fail to share in our special regard.

LONDON HOSPITAL.

Our readers may remember the account which we gave of the exertions made two years ago, on behalf of the LONDON HOSPITAL, in Whitechapel Road. (See *Panorama*, Vol. VI. p. 488.) Our countrymen in India have received an impulse from the appeal made to the feelings of the inhabitants of this island, and, with their wonted liberality, have already sent over two remittances;—one from CALCUTTA, through the hands of *Sir William Blizard, Knt.* amounting to £672. 10s.—and another through *H. H. Pelly, Esq.* who lately served the office of treasurer of the hospital, and is an elder brother of the Trinity House, amounting to the sum of £1000 from BOMBAY. May the Mother Country and her Colonies ever thus vie with each other in acts of charitable beneficence!

CURE FOR THE GOUT.

Henry Hinde Pelly, Esq. of Upton in the county of Essex, wears constantly a piece of *Loadstone* sewed in a little flannel case, suspended from a black ribbon round his neck, next his skin. It is about two inches long, about an inch and a half broad, and of the thickness of two tenths of an inch. Mr. Pelly, who is a gentleman advanced in years, says that he used to be laid up annually for three or four months in the year with a violent fit of the gout. He read, in some old book, that the wearing of a magnet next the skin was a sure preservative against that most excruciating and enfeebling disease. He knew that some of the finest and most powerful magnets in the world were found in the province of *Gulconda*. He employed an agent in India to procure him one from thence; and the stone he wears was actually brought from the mountains of *Golconda*. Its magnetic virtue is very great. It was shewn to Nairn and Blunt, who chipped it into a wearable shape, and those gentlemen said that they had never seen a finer. He made them a present of the irregular fragments. It much resembles a piece of slate such as schoolboys learn to cypher on. Mr. Pelly says that he now and then has some slight twinges, which only serve to remind him of the terrible paroxysms to which he once was subject. It happened by accident one day, when dressing, that he omitted to hang his amulet about his neck; another, and another day passed, and he began to think that after several years had elapsed without a fit, that the magnet had altered his very system, and rendered him intangible by gout. One night however, he awoke in torment, his dreams of security were dissipated in a moment. He called for his safeguard and

threw it about his neck. He escaped with a slight attack, and has never been without his piece of loadstone ever since; he wears it night and day, and enjoys perfect freedom from all the pains inflicted by his old enemy.—We have heard this story upon such *unquestionable testimony*, that we feel it a duty to give it to the world as we heard it, word for word.

DIDASCALIA.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

At length something like tranquillity has made its appearance at this Theatre. A compromise has taken place between the manager and that party calling itself the public, which took offence at the rise of price for the pit and boxes. The pit is to remain at the old price; and the boxes are to pay the new price. The tier of private boxes, to accommodate which, the house has been extremely incommoded, as well in construction, as in effect, is to be opened to the public after the present season. The prosecutions are to be dropped; and Mr. Brandon, as the acting person in those charges, is sacrificed to the vindictive spirit of those whom it was his duty as a servant of the Theatre to bring to justice.

This compromise is mingled with several circumstances deserving notice. If a genuine regard to public morals, really was, as was often alledged, the cause of opposition to the private boxes, then we cannot but applaud this jealousy in the public mind, of the very appearance of Italian or Gallic intrigue. We know that in Italy the boxes of the Theatres are private, at least the majority of them;—what does Italy present in its aspect, moral or political, that should induce us to adopt any of her customs? In what a degraded state are morals in France at this moment? and how deeply sunk is that nation in consequence? Let none be dazzled by what are affected to be called military glories; they are not glories;—they are not national glories; and they are bought at a rate, at which no true patriot would wish his country to obtain them. We repeat—from all virtues deserving emulation, Italy and France are completely divorced; and whether the private boxes at their theatres have been a cause of this evil, or a consequence resulting from it, or rather perhaps a symptom contemporary with it; in either case, let Britain preserve the utmost distance from such pollution, and maintain the anti-Italianized spirit, the anti-Gallican principle, in full vigour. We do not say, that it is enough to justify condemnation of any thing to call it *French*: but we say, that whatever can be proved to be of French origin, is at this moment, a proper subject of suspicion: a matter to be received with caution: it is a

lawful prejudice to suppose it pregnant with pestilence: it is a commendable caution to stand aloof from it, till it has performed the most scrupulous quarantine. This is no solitary sentiment: it is the echo of the voice of the well-informed public.

Against this sense of morality in the frequenters of the Theatre, we must be allowed to set off the ungenerous demand of the dismissal of Brandon, from his place in the Theatre. Brandon was always esteemed a civil man; he discharged the duties of his office with propriety, and with an endeavour to please. Wherefore should he, acting under command, be punished in his own person for actions not his own, but attributable to those who commanded him? This conduct has not raised the character of his opponents for honour or decorum; and it gives too much colour to the information whispered in our hearing, that the public was only made tools of by a party *personally interested*. In plain English, that a pique against certain of the Dramatic corps, was extremely active in *prolonging* the disturbances at the Theatre; and that expences were even incurred on this occasion; but *not by the persons who displayed the placards*.

What a life is that of a player! described by our laws as a vagabond; excluded by public feeling from the better parts of society, on account of his profession, to which no repute attaches; exposed to all manner of personal inconveniences, from the associations connected with his course of life; liable to the ill-will of hirelings, and forced to squander on those he despises no small proportion of his profits; yet after all, without security that his utmost endeavours to please, shall protect him from the vindictive combination of a few, who shall be able to lead the many, and to turn the current of public opinion completely to his disadvantage.

If the character of players be subjected to tests of such severity, that of playwrights is exposed to others no less arduous. We therefore take a pleasure in giving further publicity to the virtuous sentiments of a virtuous man. Whether Mr. Dallas be or be not, an eminent dramatic author, whether his first effort be or be not, superior to those usually produced on such occasions, we congratulate the public on the sentiments avowed by a gentleman, whose endeavours are directed to their amusement; and we congratulate Mr. Dallas on that firmness of mind, which leads him to avow such sentiments, let who will court success by means less dignified. We consider it as one indication of a genius, to which hereafter the public may look for entertainment, not disgraced by the puerilities of the present race of hackney writers for the stage. Among other sentiments expressed by that

gentleman in the preface to his farce,* we distinguish the following:

"The only objection I shall take notice of is, that the story of the slandered maid, Miss Melvil, is taken from a publication of my own. If there be any guilt in this, I plead guilty. But the dramatizing of known stories has been frequent, and never before objected to. Besides, little use is made of it; much less than I originally meant: for, it seems to be now the universal opinion that the very ideas of morality and farce are incongruous. I can only say that I am sorry for it, and that I cannot comprehend why Mirth and Virtue should be separated: but so it is, as far as respects this species of entertainment. I have been advised by a sensible friend to throw out the serious matter altogether; and confine the scenes to the jealousy of Lovell, and the conceit of Spectre. Whatever I may submit to for stage effect, and to comply with the taste of others, in representation, I cannot think it right to curtail in printing, what I am most ambitious of valuing myself upon, passages, that tend to mend the heart, and to guard virtue."

At the LYCEUM has been presented a dramatic effort by Mr. Cobb, a writer hitherto known by the composition of vehicles for music, called *comic operas*. In those operas sense was not to be expected; for to have indulged that expectation would have betrayed an ignorance of the world, the theatre, and the writer. Mr. Cobb has shewn a laudable emulation in attempting a drama of a superior order. For this he deserves praise. How far he has succeeded in his attempt, is a question not rashly to be determined in his favour. The plot of the comedy is unlikely, and the censorious say, it is unnatural. Two friends, Englishmen, pass over to Hamburgh, dine, get drunk, fight, and a duel succeeds, one is (supposedly) killed, the survivor changes his name from *Afford* to *Sidney*, and endeavours to appease the manes of the deceased, by directing his protection to the children, a son and daughter, of his friend. He remits large sums to *Transient*, a dealer in Wapping, for the use of the orphan *Torringshams*; but *Transient* keeps the major-part of these remittances to himself. However, he places the children in a cheap country retirement in Ireland, under the care of two Irish domestics. One of these, *Patrick Ballymooney*; having obtained a place in the Excise,

* NOT AT HOME: a Dramatic Entertainment, as Performed, with General Approbation, by the Drury Lane Company, at the Lyceum Theatre. Written by R. C. Dallas, Esq. Author of Elements of Self-Knowledge, Percival, Aubrey, &c. Pp. 40, Price 2s. London: Crosby & Co.

becomes *Esquire*. This we learn from the first act, and this act passes at *Hamburg*. The rest of the play is in Britain. Here the character of old *Transient* opens: his son, young *Transient*, writes five letters at one time; goes to sleep after this violent exertion, misdirects his letters, and thus furnishes matter for the *équivoques* of the plot. At length the supposed-to-be-slain *Major Torringham* arrives: *Alford* is discovered in *Sidney*; *Transient* is detected in his tricks: the young *Torrings* meet with their matches; and all ends happily; as every body foresaw from the beginning would be the end of the business. The acting of Mathews saved the piece; the epilogue, spoken by Mrs. Edwin, was of great service to the author. The fact is, the production wanted vigour of conception, and vigour of character: this could not be given it by the actors; and for this want nothing could compensate.

As to scenery, wardrobe, decorations, &c. as displayed by this company, under the circumstance of their late losses, we think a *true* critic will view them favourably. To do any thing tolerably, is to do every thing, as this *corps* is situated. But the authors who write for it cannot plead the loss of their properties in the conflagration. Mrs. Edwin was entitled to applause. Dowton, in old *Transient* did his best:—but to make a villain pleasing? Mr. Wroughton played Captain *Alford*, and Mr. Wrench played young *Torringham*. As to the Irish characters, they were of an ordinary class—what more can be said of them?

.....

Prologue to *NOT AT HOME*, as intended to have been spoken. Written by W. R. Wright, Esq. Author of *HOMÆ IONICÆ*, noticed in our sixth Volume, page 475, et seq.

Our Author, anxious for your approbation,
Has sent me here by way of preparation;
But undetermined still what means to use,
To recommend this bantling of his Muse:
From thought to thought with double haste he rovd,
As fancy led or judgement disapproved:
I could not bear to see him thus perplex'd,
So cried, "I'll take your title for my text."
At home, or not at home!—Oh! 'tis a theme
As vast as Folly's never-failing stream.
Why, *Not at home*'s the voice of modern days,
Which every age, and sex, and rank displays;
And Coxcombs, from the 'Prentice to the Peer,
Disdain the limits of their proper sphere.—
Observe my Lord—the copy of his groom—
In all the scenes of vulgar life at home;
At home to all the Pugilistic train,
Lord of the ring and Hero of the rein:
But not at home when tradesmen would be paid,
Or worth and genius supplicate his aid;

And least at home, Oh! mean and groveling mind!
In that high station which his birth assigned.

In those dull moments when ennui prevails,
And beaux forget to call, and scandal fails,
What dame of fashion e'er can condescend
At home the solitary hours to spend?
At home! Oh monstrous! is there then no way
To kill the languor of the irksome day?
Call my barouche! I'll drive to lady Bloom:
Our mutual watchword still is—*Not at home*!
And Mrs. Shuttle, odious, rustic creature!
Whose suppers we endure from mere good nature.
Brisk at his post, and practised in reply,
The powdered footman tells the ready lie:
Not so the simple lad just come to town,
Scarce half a coxcomb, more than half a clown,
With awkward shame he turns his head away,
And blushing stammers—*Not at home to-day*.
To Bond Street next, to cheapen fans and laces,
Or buy at Overton's the Loves and Graces.

These follies drive away the morning Splen;
Rout, Opera, Concert close the evening scene.
Thus having trod the giddy circle o'er,
Till fashion palls, and folly charms no more,
Listless and tir'd, at length she condescends
To pass one night at home—but sees her friends.
Forth fly a thousand cards, and each conveys
Her summons, couched in true Laconic phrase:
Her Ladyship at home.—Well! view her there:
Order your coach at ten to Berkeley square;
Along the crowded staircase force your way,
Where costly flowers their mingled sweets display:
Approach the long saloon where, blazing bright,
Rich chandeliers refract the varied light.
Her sofa deck'd with oriental pride,
All Egypt's monsters grinning at her side,
Midst shapeless mockeries of Greece and Rome,
In tawdry pomp—my lady is at home.
While these gay scenes her restless thoughts employ,
She scarcely feels a transient gleam of joy;
With vacant eye reviews the splendid dome,
And sighs that—Happiness—is not at home.
Not such their Home whom Love has taught to know
From that blest source what real transports flow.
Home! 'tis the name of all that sweetens life;
It speaks the warm affection of a wife,
The lisping babe that prattles on the knee
In all the playful grace of infancy,
The spot where fond parental love may trace
The growing virtues of a blooming race:
Oh! 'tis a word of more than magic spell,
Whose sacred power the Wanderer best can tell:
He who, long distant from his native land,
Feels at her name his eager soul expand:
Whether as Patriot, Husband, Father, Friend,
To that dear point his thoughts, his wishes bend;
And still he owns, where'er his footsteps roan,
Life's choicest blessings centre all—at home.

THE OPERA AT THE KING'S THEATRE
has opened, after a sufficient quantity of
squabbling between the manager and some of
his performers:—of this more in our next.

PRESENT STATE OF COMMERCE AT MALTA.

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La Valetta, Malta, Sept. 24, 1809.

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With regard to the vicissitudes of seasons: the whole of winter was delightful, we had but little rain, and no cold weather; from the beginning of April, until about the third week in August, we never had a shower; it is astonishing that such a prodigious drought and heat should not destroy the little vegetation which there is. In the month of June it became very hot; and in July and August the heat was intense: mostly 90° to 93° of the thermometer; yet I continued in perfect health; but in August, I got what is here called the *prickly heat*, an eruption over the body, which, when in a state of perspiration, gives one an idea of being pricked with pins, and is very troublesome; this subsided, and a number of sore boils broke out, principally about my breast, very much inflamed and painful; they are now going away, and I hope I am seasoned to the climate: the heat continues great, 78° in the shade. I have never heard thunder since I came to the island, sometimes frequent lightning, but it is not to be wondered at, as there is seldom a cloud in the horizon. We expect much rain betwixt this and Christmas. The nights are the most splendid things in nature.

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becomes *Esquire*. This we learn from the first act, and this act passes at *Hamburg*. The rest of the play is in Britain. Here the character of old *Transient* opens: his son, young *Transient*, writes five letters at one time; goes to sleep after this violent exertion, misdirects his letters, and thus furnishes matter for the *equivokes* of the plot. At length the supposed-to-be-slain *Major Torringham* arrives: *Alford* is discovered in *Sidney*: *Transient* is detected in his tricks: the young *Torringshams* meet with their matches; and all ends happily; as every body foresaw from the beginning would be the end of the business. The acting of Mathews saved the piece; the epilogue, spoken by Mrs. Edwin, was of great service to the author. The fact is, the production wanted vigour of conception, and vigour of character: this could not be given it by the actors; and for this want nothing could compensate.

As to scenery, wardrobe, decorations, &c. as displayed by this company, under the circumstance of their late losses, we think a true critic will view them favourably. To do any thing tolerably, is to do every thing, as this *corps* is situated. But the authors who write for it cannot plead the loss of their properties in the conflagration. Mrs. Edwin was entitled to applause. Dowton, in old *Transient* did his best:—but to make a villain pleasing? Mr. Wroughton played Captain *Alford*, and Mr. Wrench played young *Torringsham*. As to the Irish characters, they were of an ordinary class—what more can be said of them?

Prologue to *NOT AT HOME*, as intended to have been spoken. Written by W. R. Wright, Esq. Author of *HORE IONICÆ*, noticed in our sixth Volume, page 475, et seq.

Our Author, anxious for your approbation,
Has sent me here by way of preparation;
But undetermined still what means to use,
To recommend this bantling of his Muse:
From thought to thought with double haste he rovd,
As fancy led or judgement disapproved:
I could not bear to see him thus perplex'd,
So cried, "I'll take your title for my text."
At home, or not at home—Oh! 'tis a theme
As vast as Folly's never-failing stream.
Why, *Not at home's* the voice of modern days,
Which every age, and sex, and rank displays;
And Coxcombs, from the 'Prentice to the Peer,
Disdain the limits of their proper sphere.—
Observe my Lord—the copy of his groom—
In all the scenes of vulgar life at home;
At home to all the Pagilistic train,
Lord of the ring and Hero of the rein:
But not at home when tradesmen would be paid,
Growth and genius supplicate his aid;

And least at home, Oh! mean and groveling mind!
In that high station which his birth assigned.

In those dull moments when ennui prevails,
And beaux forget to call, and scandal fails,
What dame of fashion e'er can condescend
At home the solitary hours to spend?
At home! Oh monstrous! is there then no way
To kill the languor of the irksome day?
Call my barouche! I'll drive to lady Bloom:
Our mutual watchword still is—*Not at home*:
And Mrs. Shuttle, odious, rustic creature!
Whose suppers we endure from mere good nature.
Brisk at his post, and practised in reply,
The powdered footman tells the ready lie:
Not so the simple lad just come to town,
Scarce half a coxcomb, more than half a clown,
With awkward shame he turns his head away,
And blushing stammers—*Not at home* to-day.

To Bond Street next, to cheapen fans and laces,
Or buy at Overton's the Loves and Graces.

These follies drive away the morning Spleen;
Rout, Opera, Concert close the evening scene.
Thus having trod the giddy circle o'er,
Till fashion palls, and folly charms no more,
Listless and tired, at length she condescends
To pass one night at home—but sees her friends.
Forth fly a thousand cards, and each conveys
Her summons, couched in true Laconic phrase:
Her Ladyship at home.—Well! view her there:
Order your coach at ten to Berkeley square;
Along the crowded staircase force your way,
Where costly flowers their mingled sweets display:
Approach the long saloon where, blazing bright,
Rich chandeliers refract the varied light.
Her sofa deck'd with oriental pride,
All Egypt's monsters grinning at her side,
Midst shapeless mockeries of Greece and Rome,
In tawdry pomp—my lady is at home.

While these gay scenes her restless thoughts employ,
She scarcely feels a transient gleam of joy;
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We have no newspapers that I can send you, having nothing coming regular but the London and Gibraltar papers; there are no news-

papers printed here; I question if there is talent enough in the whole island to edit one; there is nothing printed in Sicily, or Italy (Tuscan periodical) worth reading. The Trieste paper rarely reaches us, and the Vienna and other German gazettes never.

It does not appear to me, that the Sicilians at all merit the encomiums passed on them, by P. Brydone, the traveller, for their love of and progress in learning.

MERCANTILE INFORMATION.

Weights.—The general cantar is equal to 175 lbs. English; 234 lbs. of Leghorn; 250 lbs. of Genoa; 193 lbs. of Marseilles; 152 lbs. of Trieste.—Fish, cheese, hides, butter, and such articles are sold at the great cantar of 111 rotolo.

Measures.—A salm is equal about to the English quarter, and contains 16 tomoli: the barrel of wine or brandy contains 11 gallons: a caliso, 5½ gallons. The cane 83 English inches.

Accounts are kept in scudes, taris, and grains: 12 taris make one scudo: 20 grains one tari.

July 1, 1809.

In former observations we expressed our persuasion, that Malta would become the centre-point of the commerce of the Mediterranean, and we believe, we are fully justified in our present opinion, that it is now become so, from political circumstances; the security and protection it affords to property; the small expenses incurred; and when the desired extent of warehouses shall have been obtained, we consider the trade of the island likely to be of great magnitude, while the state of the Continent may be unsettled, and that it will always be of consequence under any circumstances.

The importance of Malta seems now to be felt in England, and its commerce meets every encouragement. This establishment (James Chabot and Co.) is one of the oldest, and when we consider the progress of the trade here, the increase of regular mercantile houses, with their capital and connections, and the consequent activity and prosperity which have resulted to the natives, and generally, we are quite astonished. The consumption of the island, though its population is great, is of no consideration. The habits and economy of the Maltese have allowed little innovation in matters of luxury, or expence, though many of them are very wealthy. Malta affords a perfectly secure dépôt, and a lazaretto of great extent:—its trade depends on the surrounding markets, and now seems principally to be transacted upon a system of barter, with a small proportion of specie. The trade by licence with his majesty's enemies is become very limited, and the difficulties to communicate with Italy and France, for an interchange, or the ob-

taining of merchandises, are almost insurmountable.

We may as well in this place remark, that this market never was overstocked in so extraordinary a degree with colonial produce, and indeed almost every leading article, as it is at present, owing to the situation of Trieste. A number of vessels from England, Lisbon, Cadiz, and Gibraltar, lie here with their cargoes on board, and others have been unloaded and forced sales made.—We are of opinion further arrivals will take place, and that under any probable circumstances, we ought to advise our correspondents to make no consignment for Malta for some months; and should Trieste not be open, it may be six months before the stock on hand in Malta, Sicily, and Smyrna, may be nearly run off. Sales of any consequence for cash are almost impossible.

In manufactures of Great Britain, sales have been, for some months past, made at very low prices.—We will only mention the leading articles: Manchester goods; half ell clouded nankeens 13 to 13½ taris p. cane: two led stripe nankeens 17 to 18 taris p. cane. Grey grandel nankeens 18 to 20 taris p. cane. Plain blue velverets 3 sc. p. cane, plain black velverets 2½ sc. p. cane, fancy striped velverets 2½ to 3 sc. p. cane, not very current.—Thicksets 28 to 30 taris per cane; plain blue velveteens 3½ to 4 sc. plain black ditto 3½ sc. fancy stripe ditto 3½ sc. p. cane. Six quarter wide cambric muslin is generally a current article, and such qualities only are current as can be sold at 10½ to 12 scudes p. cane; and of ½ to ¼ a smaller quantity finds sale at proportionate prices for similar qualities. Very few finer cambrics are of current sale. Ordinary ballasore, white cambric, and French pulicat handkerchiefs are sometimes saleable.—Printed calicoes of both light and dark grounds have sold at very low prices for a long time, 14 to 20 sc. p. piece of 28 yards, and for printed cambrics 20 to 22 sc. p. piece. There are several other articles in this branch which occasionally find sale, but as they are objects only deserving partial attention, we deem it more advisable not to mention them: and, finally, upon Manchester goods must remark, that the importations here are very large and successive, and the competition in effecting sales either for credit, in barter, or, as it rarely occurs, for cash, is extremely great, and the sales of articles of good quality rendered most precarious and difficult, at even near saving prices. This place has been for a long time past, generally overstocked: cambric muslins and plain blue velverets are the only articles at this time, saleable at the prices quoted: our opinion is, that the prospects are, that Malta is likely most frequently to be glutted with Manchester manufactures. In Leeds manufactures, and cloths generally,

there is usually an overstock and consequent competition, and sales are made as freely in barter for any sort of produce, as on credit, and often at long credit; the present is not the season for cloth: at proper season, blue of all qualities, a few blacks and ordinary, and half fine cloths, and very few superhnes dark colours find sale, and the probability of few German cloths being received may help the sale of a greater quantity of English cloths.—Shalloons at 30 to 32 sc. and fewer at 34 to 36 sc. p. piece, are sometimes saleable for the Levant, and also Mahouti cloths, properly assorted at 16 sc. p. cane.—Anascotti and Scottini have become of very precarious sale.

In Exeter manufactures scarcely any sales can be effected: they seem to be almost out of use, or there are so many importers of these articles, which are of very limited sale, that a bale even can rarely be sold: the usual articles in this line are saje arcimperiali, du-rois, a few druggets, and white serges, when saleable for the winter season only. In all sorts of hardware and cutlery; a package only is saleable occasionally, if properly assorted for the shops here.

Purchases which formerly were made generally for cash, can now often be made at one two or three months credit.

Sales of any consequence generally made at three and four months credit.—Those of inferior import, for cash, only by chance, and at two months: barter may be almost quoted as the more frequent mode of disposing of goods.

Charges here are moderate, as the only expenses to be incurred are the port duties, which, on fine goods, scarcely ever exceed half per cent. and on inferior goods, perhaps, one per cent.—Spirits imported with a cocket from Great Britain pay no duty: from any other place they pay two scudes and a half per barrel of Malta, which duty is drawn back on exportation.

We may probably, hereafter, be able to quote courses of exchange on Tunis, and some other commercial places in the Mediterranean. Bills of the commissary general department at 30 days sight on England, 59½ per Sicilian dollar, or Spanish dollar; the offices of government make no difference in the price of either dollar, and as Sicilian dollars are excessively scarce and rarely seen, and the merchants pay and receive the Spanish dollar at 31 taris, the course of exchange for commercial bills at 30 days sight appear at a great disproportion, being now 59½ a 60 for 30 taris, payable by Spanish dollars at 31 taris. In Sicily the Sicilian dollar is current at 12 taris of Sicily, making at par 30 taris of Malta, and the Spanish dollar is current at 12 taris and 4 grains in Sicily, equal to 20½

taris of Malta, and as it often happens, that Spanish dollars are in demand here for the Levant, and even at a higher rate than 31 taris, in times of scarcity of money, the merchants agreed to make them current among themselves at 31, in the hope of there remaining a larger quantity of that coin in the island, from its bearing a small advance on the currency of the neighbouring island of Sicily, and in consideration of the great scarcity that prevailed (which still does prevail) of Sicilian gold, and silver, and Spanish gold. Thus is the extraordinary apparent difference in the exchange for government, and commercial bills on England, accounted for. In case of any sudden demands of money for government, the exchange on England is influenced greatly. Property here is preserved in hard cash, and sometimes merchandises, &c.

Monies.—The coin of the island is very rarely seen, consisting of pieces of money representing scudes, taris, and grains. Sicilian dollars worth 30 taris, are very scarce: Spanish dollars pass in the government offices for 30 taris: almost generally with commercial persons at 31 taris: doubloons, 38½ scudes each, very scarce. Sicilian ounce 6½ scudes, very scarce. Venetian sequins 5½ to 5½ scudes good weight, almost out of circulation. Imperial dollars 30 taris.

Discount on bills has fluctuated from half per cent. to three per cent. *per month*, arising principally from foreigners, who sell their merchandise for bills, and afterwards determine to discount them at almost any rate, previous to their departure, or for the purpose of entering into other adventures. The law allows a charge of interest of half per cent. *per month*, but in matter of discount it appears optional with the parties to fix what may suit them. Money appeared to become scarce suddenly, and the holders of acceptances, who had previously found no difficulty whatever to discount at three quarters per cent. *per month*, suffered naturally much inconvenience.

Freight and Shipping.—The state of the British markets has tended to produce a calm in regard to shipments here, and we are of opinion that the rate of freight, which some time ago was about *nine pounds* per register ton, must decline, and probably to *six or seven pounds* per ton, as we believe the principal exportations homeward arise from goods received in barter, and not upon orders executed. Much foreign shipping was taken up to load for England, while there was a chance of oil, fruit, and cotton selling to advantage: this is now at an end, and several British vessels remain unchartered, though there does not, at present, appear an inclination to engage for lower rates of freight.—The rate of freight from hence to Sicily is

from four dollars to six dollars per ton, and the same back; and unless the goods brought are likely to suffer much by transshipment, much time is often saved to ships unloading here, by their return cargoes being procured ready; the insurance on such transactions may be ascertained by our informations under that head. The freight for some of the out-ports in Great Britain, or to Ireland, is generally one pound per ton more: from hence to Gibraltar and Cadiz ten to fourteen dollars per ton; to Alicant or Valencia about ten dollars per ton; to Cagliari about six dollars per ton; to the Adriatic, Morea, and Levant, generally twelve to sixteen dollars per ton: at these rates, ships may be chartered here to fetch cargoes: to America by American vessels about twenty-five dollars per ton has been paid. Convoys to all the places with which Malta has trade are appointed very frequently. It is worth attention, to mention the Malta prize register bill passing in England, to allow all the privileges of a British register to prize vessels, purchased at Malta, and owned by native or British inhabitants.—The probability of goods being admitted to immediate pratique in Great Britain, after having performed quarantine at Malta; and that all goods imported there from Malta, to pay the same duties as from the place of their growth.

The extent of shipping belonging to the native inhabitants is very considerable, consisting of speronaras, or large row-boats and vessels of all descriptions, up to the usual mercantile burthen, which, with the shipping that crowd here from all the surrounding ports, gives a great activity to commerce in all directions.

A Bank, called the Anglo-Maltese Bank, has been formed, chiefly by the British merchants, and will shortly be opened in La Valetta, for the purpose of facilitating commercial transactions, by providing a convenient circulating medium, discounting bills of exchange, and receiving deposits. The establishment is to be on the principle of commandite, each subscriber being responsible only to the amount of his subscription: the term of the establishment to be three years, or until six months after the signing of a definitive treaty, upon a general peace being concluded.—The capital of the company to be one million of scudes, to be divided into two hundred shares of five thousand scudes, one vote to be attached to each share, and no person, nor the partners of a mercantile establishment collectively, to hold more than five shares. A deposit of one fourth of the capital to be made immediately. The entire management of the affairs of the bank to be vested in a president and twelve directors, elected by the subscribers. The president to hold five shares; directors two shares, and to continue in office one year,

when a new election is to take place. Notes payable on demand to be issued at the discretion of the board of direction: the amount never to exceed the subscribed capital. No notes to be issued except in payment, for bills and promissory notes, payable in Malta, not having more than three months to run, and appearing to the satisfaction of the board of direction, to have originated in real transactions, to be discounted at the rate of interest of one half per cent. per month. Advances to be made on bullion under certain limits and restrictions. Subscribers and others may deposit money and draw it at pleasure without any charge. The books of the bank to be balanced every six months, and a statement presented to a general meeting of subscribers. A dividend of contingent profits to be made annually. The shares in the bank saleable, provided the person proposed as the purchaser be approved by the president and directors.—This establishment promises to be of great benefit to the commerce of this island.

A public *Exchange* is now arranging, with commodious apartments for the offices of the bank and insurance company, and other general and special commercial utility.

Insurance.—The companies, with which the principal insurances are made, are the "*Anglo-Maltese*" and the "*Maltese*," the former composed chiefly of the British merchants, and the latter of the Maltese. The Anglo-Maltese insurance company was established on the 1st of July, 1808, and the following is a copy of the fundamental conditions.

"We, the undersigned, having determined to form a company, principally with the view of insuring maritime risks, do hereby declare that the following conditions are established as the fundamental basis thereof, viz.

"1st. The present company shall commence this day, and shall continue for three years, unless during the said period a general peace shall be concluded, in which case the company shall be immediately dissolved.—2d. The present company shall go under the firm of "*The Anglo-Maltese Insurance Company*," and shall be represented by two deputies, and an agent.—3d. The capital of the company shall be one million, to be divided in shares of 1000 scudes each.—4th. The company shall be established on the footing of a commandite; that is to say, that the members shall not be bound to pay more than the sum they subscribe for, in any event whatever.—5th. The company shall never risk on one vessel more than 5 per cent. of its capital, nor more than 20 per cent. on one convoy, to be divided in the above proportion of 5 per cent. only, on each vessel, and always excluding the risks of barratry and contraband, or any other insurance against all risks. The policies to be signed, and to

be made out according to the custom established in this island.—6th. The funds of the company may be employed in discounting bills or notes of persons of solidity, not having more than three months to run, having at least two signatures, and not exceeding the sum of 10,000 scudes, at the rate of half per cent. interest per month, or in such other manner as may be determined by a general meeting of the company.—7th. One-fifth of the capital shall be paid by the members immediately; and the remainder, in case of losses, shall be paid in, as may be determined by a general meeting; in which case the sums so paid shall be returned to the members as soon as the company's funds shall so far exceed the fifth part of the capital, which shall always remain as a fund.—8th. A balance of the company's affairs shall be made every six months, and the profits shall be paid to the members.—9th. At the expiration of the term here fixed for the duration of the company, no further risks shall be taken, and the members shall be paid their respective shares, and the profits thereon.—10th. If at any time it should happen that the company shall have lost one-half of its capital, a general meeting of the members shall be called, to determine whether it may be most expedient to continue taking risks, or to suspend till the result of the outstanding risks is known.—11th. Any member may sell his shares, provided the purchaser thereof is approved by a majority of the members; only in such case the company shall have the preference of buying in said shares, at the price offered by others. Done and concluded in Valletta this 1st day of July 1808. 1000 shares subscribed for by 77 mercantile establishments or other persons."

Corn, fish, fruit, flour, and seed, are free of particular average, unless the ship be stranded. Losses paid, as is customary here, in four months after being proved, but this Insurance Company usually pays at once under a discount of half per cent. per month. In cases of general or particular average under any circumstances, the company has always free three per cent. on the sum insured. There are two surveyors appointed by the company, who examine all shipping which is proposed for insurance, and a vessel is classed according to its age and condition, if proper to be insured at all, first, second, or third class, and vessels coming to Malta, which of course cannot be surveyed, are ranked in the second class. The Maltese insurance company insure to the extent of ten thousand scudes on one ship, and in some respects act the same as the Anglo-Maltese company. There are also a very few private underwriters in the place.

Very considerable sales by auction of prize, and other goods, take place occasionally, and at present at very reduced prices, owing to

the value of ready money. It is very seldom that a good vessel offers for sale. There is a small company associated for trial of the trade that may be practicable between Malta and Bona and La Cala; the coral fishery procuring of live stock, wax, grain, and hides, may be comprised in that branch of commerce.

CONJECTURES ON THE ORIGIN OF MORALITIES IN THE WEST: WITH FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE CHRISTMAS FEAST OF FOOLS.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

SIR,—You some time ago * inserted an account of the "Ass's Festival," as practiced in the City and at the cathedral of Sens; which account you closed by alluding to a "second paper, of which you expected a translation." As that paper has not appeared in the Panorama, I beg leave to propose the present communication as a substitute for it.†

It appears from a very interesting article in your VIth Vol. p. 529, 737, that representations, approaching as near as possible to the facts, were annually exhibited in the church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. These were the actions of our Saviour's sufferings. No author whose works I have perused, has enabled me to determine whether any other particulars connected with the history of our Lord have been the subjects of similar representations; a suspicion in the affirmative, has arisen in my mind, in consequence of an observation by M. Millin, that in France "the pilgrims after vespers, exhibited dramatic representations, upon the pavement, in the open space, before the doors of churches." This leads us to consider, 1st. the character of these persons; they were pilgrims; such as had visited the Holy Land; also the holy places in that country, as we may rationally conclude. 2d. They exhibited, I suppose, imitations of what they had seen, at the holy places: these were, it is likely, processions, singings; and, at the proper seasons of the year, representations by action of what it was thought desirable to commemorate.

By tracing this tradition, we are enabled to correct the idea stated in the paper to which this may serve as a supplement, that the *Saturnalia*, or rather the *Bacchanalia*, were the parents of these uncouth festivities. They may claim a more Christian origin, though possessing but little of a Christian spirit. And this is the more convenient, as well as

* Compare Panorama, Vol. II. p. 585.

† This is an oversight of our worthy correspondent: the paper designed appeared in Vol. II. p. 785. An error in numbering the pages has probably misled him.

credible, because pilgrimage to the East was fashionable, long before the time of the Crusades: and because we know that *substitutions* of Christian shews, processions, &c. for heathen, were frequent among converts of a certain class, in several countries. This suggestion, also, affords a glimpse at the parentage of the *Moralities*, once so favourite among us; pieces which extended their action to the comprehending of any Bible history whatever.

The order of this transition as it appears likely, to my mind, is, that, in the east, certain celebrations were instituted, in which the original action was imitated, by way of making the greater impression on the minds of spectators: those among these spectators who had no better employment, when they got home, endeavoured to effect imitations of what they had seen abroad; but usually possessing more warmth of fancy than correctness of judgment, and having to instruct those who had never seen the originals, they fell lamentably short of what the *honest* among them intended. The intentions of the dishonest were, no doubt, to pocket the penny, and if they succeeded in this they were satisfied. It may not be easy to convince such of your readers as have never seen the Continent, of the interest taken by spectators, at the sight of those shews carried about in boxes, representing the "*Ecce Homo*," the Crucifixion, &c. or of the attention (formerly) paid to a *Chanteur de Cantiques*, who sung his carols with such images before him. Those, who can recollect such sights, will think it very credible that these are traditionary memorials of the once popular festivities; as the custom among us of singing lullaby Christmas carols is almost the only remaining vestige of those *Cantiques*; to which our ancestors in the days of darkness, were indebted for a feeble ray of knowledge. That these, with the *moralities*, should be performed by the priests, was natural; and thus the hitherto inexplicable mystery, by what inducements the clergy became actors, is set in an easy, and, I believe, in a true light.

That Christmas, as the time of year for celebrating the birth of the Saviour, should be peculiarly distinguished by the *fullness* of such representations, is no more than might be expected: and as all the powers of the parties concerned would be called into exertion on this occasion, nothing, we may safely affirm, would be omitted that might render the celebration striking, or gratifying to those who crowded to behold it.

The principal personages who would be presented in a scenic representation of the birth of Christ, are Mary, Joseph, the Magi, and the Shepherds;—beside these, either tradition or invention added, the ox and the ass, as attendants on the Holy Family; and sheep,

naturally enough, as being brought by the Shepherds.

It is true, that Scripture says nothing of these animals: but it suited the actors to say something about them; and if they did not appear in the real history, a typical reference to them might be found by searching;—or, if not, the spectacle would be the better for the introduction of them, and that was authority enough. It was not, then, with any reference to the ox *Apis*, that the ox was commemorated among Christians; neither was the ass introduced into these celebrations derived from the *ass* of Pan; but they were deduced, either directly or indirectly, from Scripture.

The ox had his part in the drama, and both prose and verse were addressed to him; but my present object is the ass, and especially that commemoration of him, which your pages had left incomplete.

In the first place, it seems, that, to perfect the description of this noble beast, we must add to the cantique sung in the cathedral of Sens, the following verse, as extant in the most correct copy:

*Hic in colibus Sichen,
Enutritus sub Ruben,
Transiit per Jordanem,
Subiit in Bethleem.*

Hez, Sire Anc, Hez!

He was born on Shechem's hill;
In Reuben's vales he fed his fill;
He drank of Jordan's sacred stream,
And gambolled in Bethleem.

Huzza, Seignior Ass, Huzza!

This stanza should be the fourth in the canticle. From the tenor of it M. Millin deduces an argument for the gospel origin of this ass; which he adopts in preference to those conjectures that refer him to the ass of Lucian, or to that of Apuleius; or to that of Balaam.

Du Cange gives a burden to this song, which M. Millin deems not so ancient as that of the Sens MS.

Hez sire anc car chantez,
Belle bouche rechignez,
On aura du foin assez,
Et de l'avoine à planter.

Now, Seignior Ass, a noble bray!
That beauteous mouth at large display;
Abundant food our hay-lofts yield;
And oats abundant load the field.

Du Cange also gives the following as the concluding chorus of the whole.

HEZ VA! HEZ VA! HEZ VA HEZ!
Biaux sire anc car allez,
Belle bouche car chantez.

The first of these verses, though not so distinguished by Du Cange, is certainly an imitation of Asinine braying; and when performed by the whole congregation *unâ voce* must have produced a most undescribably inharmonious symphony; with an irresistibly ludicrous effect. I know nothing equal to it; for even the frog chorus in Aristophanes falls short of it, in clamour, and consequently in the *vis comica*, of such performances.

ΒΡΕΚΕΚΕΞ, ΚΟΑΞ ΚΟΑΞ,

ΒΡΕΚΕΚΕΞ ΚΟΑΞ, ΚΟΑΞ,

ΔΙΜΑΙΩΝ ΝΡΑΝΩΝ ΤΕΝΩ.

Brekkecx, koax, koax,

Brekkecx, koax, koax:

Offspring of pools and marshes!

It might be possible for an operatical poet to avail himself of a chorus of animals, of which the voices are sonorous and strongly distinguished, in a most laughable manner: whenever the attempt is made, the vocal services of the ass will not be forgotten.

It is far from my intention to introduce the serious subjects, which, in this ceremony are so intermingled with profane, as to burlesque what should ever be sacred: as a specimen of the least offensive, however, accept the following:

Dies festa colitur,

Tange symphoniam;

Nam puer qui nascitur

Juxta prophetiam,

Ut gigas egreditur

Ad currendam viam:

Felix est egressio

Per quam fiat remissio.

This festive day we venerate,

Strike the drum's sonorous roll;

The child appears foretold to fate,

The joy of many a prophet's soul:

So bursts a giant from repose

To run with rapid step the race:

Hail happy bi-th! From all our woes

He brings remission's heav'nly grace.

The merit of these hymns taken at the highest, is about equal to our ordinary ditties called Christmas carols, &c.

God rest you, merry Gentlemen,

Let nothing you dismay:

Remember Christ our Saviour

Was born on Christmas day, &c.

Which brings tidings of comfort and joy, &c.

That ludicrous and even obscene actions should be suffered to deprive these representations of what little instruction they might afford, is greatly to be regretted; but that this was early annexed to them, may be inferred from the efforts made to suppress them.

If what I have suggested as to their origin be admissible, we may perhaps refer the gradual introduction of them in the west, to the course of the sixth, seventh, or eighth centuries. Mauritius bishop of Paris, who died 1196, laboured to suppress these sottish superstitions; but they had taken too deep root, and resisted all his efforts. The copy which has given occasion to these remarks dates in 1222; and being drawn up *ex officio* as it should seem, for the use of the cathedral of Sens, it proves not only the continuance of the practice, but the patronage it continued to enjoy. A document dated 1245, extant in the archives of the chapter of Sens, imports that at that period Odo, bishop of this diocese, prohibited the offensive disguises, and repressed some of the mummeries and licentiousnesses which had become part of this festival; but he did not remove the whole, and it remained at least two hundred years after his time, since in 1444 the Faculty of theology, at the request of several bishops, wrote to all the prelates and chapters to abolish this custom. It is nevertheless evident by the Acts of the Council held in 1460, or as others say, in 1485, that the grossnesses only of this ceremony were retrenched: the Council forbids caricature habits, false and uncouth singing, and orders that on the precursor of the fools, *not more than three pails of water, at most, should be thrown*; and on the other naked men *only one pail each*; and that not within the church. The other ceremonies if practiced out of the church were permitted. It may well be supposed that after so gentle a rap, this festival would not be dropped. It was permitted by Acts of the chapter of Sens in 1514 and 1517. Still later permissions are found; but with gradual prohibition of indecencies; till at length it ceased entirely towards the end of the sixteenth century.

M. Millin informs us that the writing of the missal which has given occasion to these remarks is extremely beautiful; and that on the page of a loose leaf facing the beginning of the work is the following quatrain.

Festum stultorum de consuetudine morum,

Omnibus urbs Senonis festivat nobilis annis,

Quo gaudet præcentor; tamen omnis honor

Sit Christo circumciso nunc semper et ulmo.

The Feast of Fools, from days of yore,

Yearly the town of Sens displays;

The chanter's joy! but, evermore

To the young Christ be all the praise.

After this follows a distich which M. Millin has despaired of being able to translate, since what merit it has depends on the equivocation of *Tartara*, the deposit of wine in the cask, and *Tartarus*, the infernal region. That this is with difficulty to be preserved in

translation, must be evident to all acquainted with such attempts. I fear that neither of the following versions will be thought successful.

Never shall Tartar from the grape
Encrust the flowing cup of fools:
Their Tartarus let the wise escape,
If 'scape they can,—by wisdom's rules.

.....

The Fools enjoy their flowing bowls,
Drink deep; the Tartar they despise:
And Tartarus leave to fearful souls,
Afrighted by the would-be wise.

The discovery of the art of painting has contributed to banish such indecorous ludicrous solemnities from the church and the world. There is now no pretence for retaining such commemorations. We find, accordingly, that as this art became popular, these institutions decayed, and as the public became more enlightened they were reformed, and at length dropped. This then, is one service derived from this noble art: it is a service of which we in this island, at the present day, can form scarcely any conception. We have so long enjoyed the liberty of thinking, speaking, and writing, as to forget that this distinction of our rational nature was ever forbid in our country. The contemplation of such subjects at the present may contribute to remind us of our advantages, and in this view they become not only amusing but instructive.—I am, Sir, Yours, &c. Q.

We beg leave to add to the remarks of our correspondent, that a proper veneration is due to the memory of those judicious dignitaries, who, although immersed in the obscurity of the age in which they lived, yet had light enough to reprimand these (and no doubt, other) grossnesses. We have several proofs of the orthodoxy and judgment of ecclesiastics in those days, even while the mass of their brethren and of the people, was rude and superstitious. While we condemn that mass, we ought the more thoroughly to distinguish such honourable exceptions. Our friend Q's suggestion, as to the *different origin* of these perversions from what we had formerly stated, deserves attention and inquiry.

ALMANACH DES GOURMANDS; OR, THE LUXURY OF PARIS.

Hélas! nous n'avons plus l'estomac de nos pères;
Toute l'affète aujourd'hui: les progrès des lumières,
Et de la vérité, la hauteur des esprits,
Sembient avoir changé nos premiers appétits.

La Gastronomie, par M. Berchoux, Chant. II.

There are other offences against good manners, and still more against the genuine spirit of Christianity, beside that so happily

treated by our ingenious correspondent Q. None can possibly suspect us of being victims to that cynical disposition which refuses to partake in the social enjoyments of life; (or, if any desire conviction on this subject, let them send an invitation to the corps, and set a good bottle of wine before us, with proper preface and appendix)—but, enjoyment is not, in our vocabulary, synonymous with excess. We abhor gloom and melancholy; and, whenever we *do* run mad, our madness will be of the sprightly kind: *vivace!*—yet till that happy time arrives, we deem it our duty, and we find it to our benefit, to mingle mirth with wisdom. We even pique ourselves on our taste; and think little of those who load a table, but never set it out to advantage:—but then our taste is British. We prefer John Bull's viands to all the *soi-disant* delicacies that ever were metamorphosed into the indescribables of French cookery. To say truth, we are somewhat suspicious, and always like to *know what we eat*. Roast beef, for instance, we know to be “good for the stomach and bowels;” and in spite of Sir Andrew Aguecheek's opinion to the contrary, not hurtful to the brains and wit. In short, the fact is, that we *have known* what French cookery *was*, at the tables of highest fashion, and therefore consider ourselves as well qualified to judge on the merits of culinary competition. Having lately been visited with a desire to know what the present taste ordains as the *etiquette à-la-mode de Paris*, we took up Mr. Pinkerton's “Recollections of his Visit to Paris in the Years 1802-3-4-5,” and having been ourselves amused with his description, we determined to submit it to our readers for public amusement: they will therefore accept it *verbatim*—with the “compliments of the season,”—as a dessert to the sprightly effusion of M. Berchoux's *Gastronomie*, noticed in a foregoing page.

.....
An Englishman, who has not visited Paris, will scarcely believe that the luxury of London can be exceeded; but, in fact, the luxuries and opportunities at Paris are allowed, by all candid judges, infinitely to surpass those of the English capital, in the variety, and the cheap rates at which they may be procured. The superior dryness of the air also exhilarates the spirits, and gives a keener relish to many enjoyments.

The well known work called “*l'Almanach des Gourmands*,” by Grimod de la Reynière, may serve in some measure as a text book in treating of the luxuries of Paris; but it is in so many hands, that a few extracts, or rather remarks, suggested by its perusal, may suffice. That work, indeed, only embraces one branch of luxury, but a branch particularly cultivated by the new rich; whose

cellars and larders are far better replenished than their libraries. This taste has become so general, that many booksellers have become *traiteurs*, and find the corporeal food far more profitable than the mental.

The old new year, the first of January, is still the season of little gifts, chiefly eatable and sweetmeats, for which last the Rue des Lombards is deservedly famous. The best beef at Paris is that of Auvergne and Cotentin, and the *aloya*, which seems to be the inner part of our sirloin, is regarded as the most chosen morsel; but the French custom of sticking such pieces with little morsels of lard, [bacon] is to an English palate truly nauseous, and irreconcilable with any just principles of cookery, as it diminishes the juice, and injures the flavour of the meat. When M. Grimod supposes that beef-steaks form the chief dish of an English dinner, he shews a ridiculous ignorance of our customs. The best veal is that of Pontoise, not far from Paris, but as they are strangers to our mode of nourishing the animals, this food is regarded as difficult or irregular digestion, nor can it ever be compared with English veal. Our author says, that the French calves are fed with cream and biscuits, which may account for this quality. The lamb is also so young, so insipid, so vapid, that it bears no resemblance to the delicate juices and flavour of the English. The mutton is from the Ardennes, but it is as rare as Welch mutton in London. In general, the mutton cannot be praised; and while the French import the Spanish breed on account of the wool, they ought also to import some other for the meat. Nor does their pork seem equal to the English.

The game is, in general, superior to that of England; and the red partridge forms an elegant regale. The pheasant has become extremely rare, the pheasantries having been destroyed with the other marks of rank. The quails in the neighbourhood of Paris are excellent.

Young turkeys, of the size of a large fowl, are very common, though somewhat higher in price; and poultry in general is about one third cheaper than in London, if bought in the large markets. Among the vegetables, spinach is particularly well cooked, and not diluted in water as in London. As the leaves take up much space, it is always sold at the green shop simply boiled, and afterwards cooked according to the fancy of the purchaser. The vinegar put into the sauce for cauliflower destroys its flavour; and in general a mixture of the English and French modes of cookery would be the best. Boiled endive, raw with us, is a common and healthy dish at Paris, being mucilaginous, and agreeable to weak stomachs. But another usual dish, a partridge boiled with bacon and cabbages,

seems an absurdity, the flavour being lost, and the whole nauseous to the English palate. Carrots are regarded as stomachic, and a basin of vermicelli soup, with grated carrot, is a famous breakfast. The French pastry is much celebrated, but many persons seem deservedly to prefer the English. Some have an aversion to the pigeons of Paris, because they are fed from mouth to mouth. The goose is left to the populace, being in general meagre and unsavoury; but the ducks are often excellent.

In the winter there is a sufficient supply of excellent fish, and turbot is sold by the pound. A rich farmer general, about to give a solemn dinner, sent his *maître-d'hôtel* for fish, who reported that there was only a large turbot, for which a counsellor had paid two louis d'or. "Here," said the farmer-general, throwing four louis on the table, "go and buy me the turbot and the counsellor." During the summer the fish is scarce and bad, and a large fortune might be made by bringing this article to Paris in ice. Fishwomen carry about live carp in leathern vessels, suspended at their girdles: these are dangerous to encounter, as any derangement of her fish-pond occasions a torrent of abuse; and sometimes a live carp serves as an instrument of manual exercise. A dish of gudgeons is a favourite food of a *petite maître-esse*. The hams of Bayonne are excellent, and extremely mild; but those of Mentz, though harder, are more savoury. The milk and eggs of Paris are superior to those of London. Of artichokes and strawberries the season is prolonged by the art of the gardener, and both may be had at the end of September.

M. Grimod has wittily observed, that thirteen forms an unlucky number at table, when there is only food for twelve; and that the falling of the salt-seller is very unlucky, when it spoils a good dish. Yet he recommends as sacred another precaution, that of paying a visit at the house where you are treated, some days after the dinner; as if the business of a forenoon could be neglected for such an idle ceremony. His parallel, vol. 1. p. 225, between the gratifications of the palate and those of love, gave some offence to the Parisian belles, and he was obliged to soften it in a second edition.

Le déjeuner à la fourchette, or fork-breakfast, is so called, because in eating meat you have occasion for a fork. Since the lateness of the dinner hour, and the discontinuance of supper, this repast has become very common. It generally consists of cold meats; but broiled fowls, kidneys, and sausages, are admitted, with *petits-pâtés*. During the winter, oysters from the Rock Concalle, a public-house so called, and much celebrated for this article, form the usual introduction.

The master and mistress of the house con-

tinue to carve, while it is to be regretted that the German fashion is not introduced, of having the dishes carved by a servant at a side-table. The *plateau*, which decorates the middle of the table, is often strewed with fine sand, of various colours, in compartments, and decorated with small images, and real or artificial flowers. Images of porcelain seem particularly adapted for this purpose: and the proper decorations are peculiar objects of good taste. In England it is not uncommon to see a splendid silver vase, containing a few oranges, or a salad, placed in the middle of the table, with, perhaps, two smaller vases at either extremity, filled with similar articles, or with bottles of favourite wine. Nothing can be more void of taste, as the contents do not correspond to the richness of the vases, and a statue of clay might as well be mounted on a horse of gold. A bottle of wine, a few oranges, or a salad, can never delight the eyes, the chief intention of the *plateau*, and the vases are only profitable to the silversmith. It was at the marriage of Louis XV, in 1725, that the first sanded *plateau* appeared at Paris. Desforges, father of the celebrated author of the *Jealous Wife*, Tom Jones at London, &c. introduced artificial verdure with great success. The son was no less remarkable as an actor and dramatic poet, than as the author of the very singular and erotic memoirs of his own life, in eight small volumes, under the title of *Le Poëte, ou Mémoires d'un Homme de Lettres*. Little temples were added by Dutofy, who also invented artificial fire-works in miniature, delighting at once the eye and the smell.

The custom of dining without the attendance of servants is warmly recommended by M. Grimod, who justly observes, they throw a constraint over the conversation. He recommends the use of numerous dumb waiters, and that the servants should only bring in the services. The custom of visiting during the dinner, not uncommon at Paris, seems contrary to every rule of politeness, as it disturbs the guests, and prevents the enjoyment of the repast. But the French talk so much during the dinner, that one would conceive they are anxious not to know what they are eating. The want of carpets in a French dining-room forms also, as already mentioned, a great and unhealthy inconvenience.

The hour of invitation is marked in three ways. If it be à six heures, it is understood that the dinner will be served at seven; if six heures précises, it is half after six; if six heures très-précises, it is an invitation for six o'clock exactly. The art of arranging the guests, so that the characters and conversation may correspond, is regarded as the height of good-breeding.

Among the finest wines of France are

esteemed Clos Vougeot, Romanée, Chamberlain, S. Georges, Pommard, Volnay, Vosne, Nuits, Beaune, Tonnerre, Mâcon, La Fitte, Château Margot, S. Julien, S. Estephe, Pic-Pouille, Javel, S. Giles. The white wines are those of Montrachet, Mursault, Pouilly, Chablis, Sillery, Pierry, Aï, Saunterne, Grave, Barsac, Condrieu, Hermitage, Côte-Rotie, Rhenish, Moselle-Bar, &c. the sweet wines served at the desert are those of Lunel, Frontignan, (which we call Frontinac) and Rivesaltes, which last is esteemed the best. That of St. Peray, near the Rhone, which the eye cannot distinguish from water, is also excellent. The foreign wines are those of Malaga, Alicante, Xérés (Sherry), Pacaret, Madeira, Clazomène, Constantia, Calabria, Tokay, Lacrima-Christi, Canarie, &c. Nor should that called the wine of Syracuse be omitted. When it is considered that all the French wines have different and peculiar flavours, more or less acceptable to the stomach at particular times, and with various aliments, the luxury may be compared with our very homely port wine and claret.

The ordinary wines, common at Paris, are often those of Orleans, which rather load the stomach; and those of Lower Burgundy, which are also known under the name of Mâcon, though they chiefly come from the neighbourhood of Auxerre. These last are often healthy, nourishing, and generous, without being the least heady. But, at the best tables, the ordinary wine is sometimes of a bad quality. The beer at Paris resembles our table beer, but is always in bottles. There are two kinds, the white and the red, the malt used in the latter being higher dried. What is called "double beer" approaches to our strong beer. *Bierre de Mars*, or March beer, is the most esteemed, and advertised at every public-house, though it can seldom be found within. The signs are often singularly improper; one of the best brewers at Paris lives at the Incarnation of the World, in the street Antoine.

Great quantities of cyder are brought from Normandy by the Seine, and lodged on the quay of the Louvre, where the venders may be found in a kind of sentry boxes. Another quay on the other side of the town, is often loaded with thousands of barrels of wine from Auxerre and Orleans. As the Normans do not make good keeping cyder, it is a winter drink at Paris, being always made in the preceding autumn. For the Parisians, who love sweets, it is also mixed with honey, &c. so as to be a corrupt and unwholesome beverage.

The *coup du milieu* is a recent refinement, which has passed from Bourdeaux to Paris. It is thus described by the modern Apicius:—

"Between the *rôti* and *entremets*, that is,

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about the middle of dinner, you see at Bourdeaux the door of the dining-room open, and a young girl appear, between the age of eighteen and twenty-two, tall, fair, and well made; with features bespeaking affability. Her sleeves are tucked up to her shoulders; and she holds in one hand a tray of mahogany, replenished with glasses, and in the other a decanter of Jamaica rum, Wornwood wine, or that of Wermouth. This Hebe goes round the table filling to each guest, and then retires in silence."

The glass is thought to restore the appetite to its original vigour.

The French *liqueurs* form another article of their luxury; and even those of the isles or West Indies are sold at less than one quarter of the price which they bear in London. The variety is also great; but many deservedly refuse this luxury, and use coffee. M. Grimod observes, that "coffee mixed with milk, or cream, forms a common breakfast of nine tenths of the Parisian females, in spite of the inconveniences which result from its habitual use; the consequences of which are prejudicial to their health and freshness, and often cause the infidelity of a husband or lover." After dinner, and simply prepared with water, coffee is thought to assist the digestion; but many find it, on the contrary heating, and prejudicial.

To such a pitch is luxury carried by some, that their cooks regularly take medicines, in order to preserve the fineness of their palates and their sauces.

Fromage, or cheese, is a low term at Paris for any substance compressed. Thus a *fromage d'Italie* is a Bologna sausage, a *fromage glacé* is a kind of ice, &c. Animals killed by electricity are found to be singularly tender.

The French have only one term, *confitures*, for pickles and confections. The best preserved fruit at Paris is that of the *julian*, or green plumb, here called those of queen Claude, but in the time of the Revolution they were cried through the streets, *prunes de la citoyenne Claude*!

The master and mistress of the house generally sit opposite to each other, at the middle of the table, not, as with us, at the head and foot. They can thus converse with all the guests, and see that a proper attention is paid to each. The soup is distributed on the right and left alternately; and if there be few or no ladies, it is passed from hand to hand, so that the nearest are the last served. In some houses glasses of sugar and water are presented two hours after the dinner, in order to assist the digestion; but it must be drank by mouthfuls and slowly, otherwise the intention will be defeated. Three or four hours after dinner, the guests escape one by one, and in silence; for to take leave would be thought as impolite as not to

make the ceremonial visit of tacit acknowledgment, within a week after the dinner. Healths are rarely drank; but it is usual to clasp the glasses as a token of intimate good will. Twelfth-cake and the king and queen of the *beau nov* re-appear. On the birth-day of the master the servants often exhibit little fireworks.

The author of the *Almanach des Gourmands* has wisely added a chapter on indigestion, from which there are not a few sudden deaths at Paris. A beautiful lady died suddenly after a copious breakfast of oysters and new bread. This *arbitrer elegantiarum* advises slow mastication; and he well observes the diversity and caprice of the stomach, which may be very strong in some respects, yet weak in regard to certain foods.

According to his decision, a great dinner is composed of four services. 1. the soups, the *hors-d'œuvres*, *relevés* and *entrées*; 2. the roast meats and sallads; 3. the cold pastry and *entremets*; 4. the desert. The superiority of the French cookery is thus visible even in the language; and I know not that any translation has been attempted.

Among the fruit of France the peaches are excellent and cheap. The smooth peach, which we call nectarine, is common, and is called *brignolet*; but that called the *éton de Vénus*, which ripens towards the end of August, is preferred. The pears are excellent, especially the *cresanne* and *bon chrétien*. The most excellent grape for the desert, is what is called the *chasselas de Fontainebleau*, which over a golden colour presents a rich bloom. The best apples are, the reinette calulapi, &c. In the autumn, 1804, reinettes weighing more than a pound, and of excellent flavour, were brought from Tressancourt, two leagues beyond St. Germain. The chesnuts of Lyons are large and celebrated. Almonds ripen at Paris, and are highly beneficial to the stomach by diminishing acrimony from bile or other causes. In the form of orgeat they become a febrifuge. Figs and melons, as already observed, never appear at the desert, but accompany the boiled beef.

The Wednesday club consists of lovers of good cheer, who assemble at Le Gacques's in the Garden of the Thuilleries. The perpetual pot of the street Grands-Augustins, is said to have been in activity for more than a century; and is always well replenished with capons. Green pease are preserved in salt; when boiled they are thrown into cold water, which restores their freshness and colour; they are then warmed with butter and sugar. Sugar also is often used with spinach.

The best oysters come from Dieppe, Cancale, Marrène, Etretat, and Grandville. Cahors is celebrated for partridges, wine,

truffles, eels, cheese, and fine bread; and is thus of singular eminence in Apician geography.

Gluttony is of all ages. A little boy, in the middle of a great repast, having no longer any appetite, began to cry; being asked the cause, "Oh (says he) I can eat no more."

"But put some in your pockets."—"Alas, they are full," replied the child. A little girl hearing a conversation, whether gluttony or liquorishness gave the most pleasure, said, "I prefer being liquorish, because it does not take away the appetite." Children, and even women will pocket sweetmeats from the table, while in other countries such a practice would savour of very bad breeding. After eating eggs it is usual to break the shells, a fragment of ancient superstition, as it was thought that witches made use of them to procure shipwrecks.

The bustard, and the cock of the woods, or in French, of the heath, about the size of a peacock, are not unusual in the shops of eatables at Paris. The latter is chiefly from the mountains of Vosges.

So much for the luxury of the table; the luxury of the houses is often extreme, particularly in the boudoir. Windows over the fire-place were invented for a farmer-general, who was confined by the gout, and wished to enjoy the prospect of his garden. The luxury of equipages is on the increase, but that of beautiful jockies must be passed in silence, though known even by advertisements in the newspapers. The worshippers of Venus, or, as they are here called, *amateurs*, may at Paris gratify every taste and caprice with females of all countries and complexions; moral liberty being complete, and aberrations only reprobated by ridicule, while civil liberty does not find the climate so favourable. Nor must the luxury of the theatres be forgotten, particularly the grand and expensive opera: so that, in this respect, Paris probably rivals Rome, or any other luxurious metropolis ancient or modern.

LAND SERPENS OF ENORMOUS DIMENSIONS AND POWERS.

Natural History is one of the most interesting studies, by which the mind can be entertained. Those who have cultivated it with earnestness, have found their attention attracted by what at first seemed marvellous; yet, after a certain degree of familiarity with other articles equally surprizing, they have found their wonder abate, and objects formerly thought scarcely within the limits of credibility, afterwards almost lost their power of exciting notice. Those who have never attempted this study hear with equal astonishment and unbelief the relation of particulars

which are established by unquestionable testimony: whereas to the adept they seem little removed from ordinary occurrences.

It can scarcely be supposed what perplexities this sometimes imposes on a lecturer in those half public half private societies which are instituted among us, for the profitable relaxation of a leisure hour. We have seen a gentleman placed under the necessity of appealing to authorities, and the books themselves examined, yet after all the auditors have retired rather silenced than convinced. The description of the great *Sea Serpent*, given in our fifth volume, p. 749. is one of those discoveries in Natural History which will effectually prevent further incredulity on the question of his existence. But incredulity will continue to maintain itself in regard to the existence of land serpents of dimensions equally surprizing, though not equally enormous. To meet this disposition, we avail ourselves of an article which has appeared in the sixth volume of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Some Account of the large Snake *Aleazagur*, (*Boa Constrictor* of Linnæus), found in the Province of Tipperah. Communicated by Mr. James Russel. Extracted from the Memorandum Book of John Corse Scott, Esq. Read 28th April, 1807.

"February 1, 1807. A large snake of this species (*Alea-Azagur*) was brought to Commillah. It measured 15 feet 3 inches in length, and 18 inches in circumference about the middle. This measurement, however, varied considerably by the wreathings and contortions it made, in order to free itself from confinement.

"The œsophagus, from the mouth to the pylorus, or bottom of the stomach, measured altogether 9 feet 3 inches, and was so wide as to take in a man's head with ease. The stomach was easily distinguished by the thickness of its coats, or the number of rugæ on its internal surface. But there was no contraction at the cardia or entrance of the stomach. The outlet or pylorus, however, was so narrow as hardly to admit two fingers.

"The head of the snake was small in proportion to its body. And I was curious to observe the mechanism of the jaw, by which it can so easily take into its mouth any substance as large as the thickest part of its body.

"The lower jaw consists of two bones, connected anteriorly by skin and ligaments, which admit of considerable distension, so that the anterior ends can be separated an inch from each other. The posterior extremity or condyle of each lower jawbone, is likewise connected to the head in such a manner, as to allow of considerable separa-

tion. The two bones, which compose the upper jaws, are capable only of a very small degree of separation at the symphysis or anterior part.

"This singular degree of laxity in the structure of the articulations, permits a degree of distension which is incompatible with the firmness requisite to perform the function of mastication.

"July 7, 1790. A snake of the *Allea* species was brought in, of a very uncommon thickness in proportion to its length, which induced me to open it. A very large guana was extracted from the gullet and stomach; for the animal was gorged to the throat. The guana, from the nose to the tip of the tail, measured 4 feet 3 inches, and in circumference round the belly 1 foot 6 inches; and yet the snake, after the guana was taken out, measured only 8 feet 6 inches in length.

"The circumference of this snake is not given; but if it bore the same proportion to its length that it did in the former snake, it would be nearly 10 inches. In this instance, therefore, the snake had swallowed an animal of greater magnitude than itself almost in the proportion of 9 to 5.

"On the 16th of the same month another snake was brought in, having nearly the same appearance as the last, but still more distended. It was opened while yet alive, and an entire fawn of one year old extracted. The fawn measured 1 foot 8 inches round the belly; and the extreme length of the snake was only 9 feet 3 inches.

"April 5, 1791. A snake of the same species was brought to Comillah and opened, from which a fawn was taken still larger than the one just mentioned; but the snake was 10 feet 6 inches in length.

"The animal is swallowed very gradually, being first, I suspect well lubricated with slime, with which this kind of large snake appears abundantly provided.

"These circumstances may undoubtedly be deemed rather fabulous by those who have never seen nor examined large snakes. But they are facts not to be denied, and are well authenticated by every one who has had opportunities of seeing and opening such snakes."

In corroboration of these statements, we shall add the contents of a paper originally drawn up by a gentleman in support of his assertions on the subject of large serpents. The *Boa* is, no doubt, in some of its species, the *Dragon* of ancient authors.

The *Dragon* is frequently mentioned by ancient naturalists: by Aristotle, lib. ix.; Diod. Sicul. lib. iii. &c. St. Ambrose, de Mor. Brach. p. 63, says, there were dragons seen in the neighbourhood of the Ganges, near seventy cubits in length. Alexander and his army saw one of this size in a cave,

to their great terror.—Elian, lib. xv. cap. 21.

The following is mostly translated, or abstracted, from Count de la Cépède: the *Boa* is among serpents, what the lion or the elephant is among quadrupeds; he usually reaches *twenty feet* in length, and to this species we must refer those described by travellers, as lengthened to *forty* or *fifty feet*, as related by Owen, Nat. Hist. Serp. p. 15. Kircher mentions a serpent forty palms [30 feet] in length; and such a serpent is referred to by Job Ludolph, p. 166, as extant in Ethiopia. St. Jerom, in his life of Hilarion, denominates such a serpent, *draco*, a *dragon*; saying, that they were called *boas*, because they could swallow (*bores*) beeves, and waste whole provinces. Bosman says, entire men have (frequently) been found in the gullets of serpents on the Gold Coast; but, the longest serpent I have read of is that mentioned by *Livy*, and by *Pliny*, which opposed the Roman army under *Regulus*, at the river *Bagrada* in Africa. It devoured several of the soldiers; and so hard were its scales, that they resisted darts and spears: at length it was, as it were besieged, and the military engines were employed against it, as against a fortified city. It was an *hundred and twenty feet* in length. Its skin was sent to Rome as a trophy, and was preserved in one of the temples there. *Pliny*, lib. xxviii. cap. 14.—

Add the following testimonies:

"At Batavia was once taken a serpent, which had swallowed an entire stag of a large size: one taken at Bauda had done the same, by a negro woman."—Baldens, in Churchill, Vol. III. p. 732.

"Leguat in his Travels says, there are serpents fifty feet long in the island of Java. At Batavia they still keep the skin of one, which, though but twenty feet in length, is said to have swallowed a young maid whole."—Barbot, in Churchill, Vol. V. p. 560.

"The serpent *guaka*, or *liboya*, [*boa*] is unquestionless the biggest of all serpents; some being eighteen, twenty-four, nay, thirty feet long, and of the thickness of a man in the middle. The Portuguese call it *kobre de hada*, or the roebuck serpent, because it will swallow a whole roebuck, or other deer; and this is performed by sucking it through the throat, which is pretty narrow, but the belly vastly big. Such an one I saw near Paraiba, which was *thirty feet* long, and as big as a barrel. Some negroes accidentally saw it swallow a roebuck, whereupon thirteen musqueteers were sent out, who shot it, and cut the roebuck out of its belly. It is not venomous. This serpent, being a very devouring creature, greedy of prey, leaps from among the hedges and woods, and standing upright on its tail, wrestles both with men and wild beasts: sometimes it leaps from the trees upon the traveller, whom it fastens on, and beats the

breath out of his body with its tail."—Nieu-hoff, in Churchill, Vol. II. p. 13.

The following is the latest, and most distinct account of one of these large serpents which I have been able to procure: It combines several particulars which coincide with our purpose.

The narrator (Stedman) was in chase of this great creature intentionally: and he renewed his efforts to obtain it, with perseverance and constancy. The skin was afterwards brought to Europe; and may be seen, it is presumed, in the Cabinet of Natural History at the Hague.

"We had not gone above twenty yards through mud and water, the negro looking every way with an uncommon degree of vivacity and attention; when starting behind me, he called out, "Me see snakee!" and in effect there lay the animal, rolled up under the falling leaves and rubbish of the trees; and so well covered, that it was some time before I distinctly perceived the head of this monster, distant from me not above sixteen feet, moving its forked tongue, while its eyes from their uncommon brightness, appeared to emit sparks of fire. I now, resting my piece upon a branch, for the purpose of taking a surer aim, fired; but missing the head, the ball went through the body, when the animal struck round, and with such astonishing force as to cut away all the underwood around him with the facility of a scythe mowing grass; and by flouncing his tail, caused the mud and dirt to fly over our heads to a considerable distance. Of this proceeding however we were not torpid spectators, but took to our heels, and crowded into the canoe.

I now found the snake a little removed from his former station, but very quiet, with his head as before, lying out among the fallen leaves, rotten bark, and old moss. I fired at it immediately, but with no better success than the other time: and now, being but slightly wounded, he sent up such a cloud of dust and dirt, as I never saw but in a whirlwind, and made us once more suddenly retreat—Having once more discovered the snake, we discharged both our pieces at once, and with this good effect, that he was now by one of us shot through the head. David, who was made completely happy by this successful conclusion, ran leaping with joy, and lost no time in bringing the boat-rope, in order to drag him down to the canoe; but this again proved not a very easy undertaking, since the creature, notwithstanding its being mortally wounded, still continued to wreath [writhe] and twist about, in such a manner as rendered it dangerous for any person to approach him. The negro, however, having made a running noose on the rope, after some fruitless attempts to make an ap-

proach, threw it over his head with much dexterity; and now, all taking hold of the rope, we dragged him to the beach, and tied him to the stern of the canoe, to take him in tow. Being still alive, he kept swimming like an eel; and I having no relish for such a ship-mate on board, whose length (notwithstanding, to my astonishment, all the negroes declared it to be but a *young one come to its half growth*) I found upon measuring it to be twenty-two feet and some inches; and its thickness about that of a black boy Quaco, who might then be about twelve years old, and round whose waist I since measured the creature's skin...

The negro, David, having climbed up a tree with the end of the rope, let it down over a strong forked bough, and the other negroes hoisted up the snake, and suspended him from the tree. This done, David, with a sharp knife between his teeth, now left the tree, and clung fast upon the monster, which was still twisting, and began his operations by ripping it up, and stripping down the skin as he descended. Though I perceived that the animal was no longer able to do him any injury, I confess I could not without emotion see a man stark naked, black and bloody, clinging with arms and legs round the slimy and yet living monster. This labour, however, was not without its use, since he not only dexterously finished the operation, but provided me, besides the skin, with above four gallons of fine clarified fat, or rather oil, though there was wasted perhaps as much more. When I signified my surprise to see the snake still living, after he was deprived of his intestines and skin, Caramaco, the old negro, whether from experience or tradition, assured me he would not die till after sun-set.

This wonderful creature in the colony of Surinam is called *Aboma*. Its length, when full grown, is said to be sometimes forty feet, and more than four feet in circumference; its colour is a greenish black on the back; a fine brownish yellow on the sides, and a dirty white under the belly: the back and sides being spotted with irregular black rings, with a pure white in the middle. Its head is broad and flat, small in proportion to the body, with a large mouth, and a double row of teeth: it has two bright prominent eyes; is covered all over with scales, some about the size of a shilling; and under the body, near the tail, armed with two strong claws like cockspurs, to help it in seizing its prey. It is an amphibious animal, that is, it delights in low and marshy places, where it lies coiled up like a rope, and concealed under moss, rotten timber, and dried leaves, to seize its prey by surprise, which, from its immense bulk, it is not active enough to pursue. When hungry, it will devour any animal that comes within its reach, and is indifferent whether

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it is a sloth, a wild boar, a stag, or even a tiger; round which having twisted itself by the help of its claws, so that the creature cannot escape, it breaks, by its irresistible force, every bone in the animal's body, which it then covers over with a kind of slime or slaver from its mouth, to make it slide; and at last gradually sucks it in, till it disappears: after this, the *Aboma* cannot shift its situation, on account of the great knob or knot which the swallowed prey occasions in that part of the body, where it rests till it is digested; for till then it would hinder the snake from sliding along the ground. During that time the *Aboma* wants no other subsistence. I have been told of negroes being devoured by this animal, and am disposed to credit the account; for, should they chance to come within its reach when hungry, it would as certainly seize them as any other animal. The bite of this snake is said not to be venomous; nor do I believe it bites at all from any other impulse than hunger."—Siedman's Expedition to Surinam, Vol. I. p. 170.

Siedman gives a plate of this creature, shewing also the operation of skinning it. The "two strong claws," are sufficiently remarkable; but they are at the same time rendered less extraordinary while they are also greatly surpassed, by the feet of the Sea Serpent, mentioned in our former article. That their purpose is "to help it in seizing prey," may be doubted. It is probable, that, could we trace this member, we should find a gradation in the size and powers of these "claws," as of many other parts.

As this paper was composed some years ago, the writer could not support his opinion by the authority of the Wernerian Society of Natural History to which we are indebted for an authentic account of Pontoppidan's Sea Serpent; this will explain the uncertainty of the following paragraph: but whether the testimony of the prophet Amos may not be added to those formerly given in support of the existence of such a serpent, and in proof that his powers were well known to the ancients is submitted to the ingenious reader.

"I see no reason for doubting the existence of true sea-serpents at least equal in dimensions with land serpents: (I think I have read of some eight or nine feet long,) but whether these possess venom I do not know. However, the stories quoted may justify the sacred writers in speaking of sea-serpents, which they call *nahash*: as Amos, ix. 3. "Though they hide in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent *nahash*, and he shall bite them."

It is not easy to determine whether this "biting" mentioned by the prophet implies venom in the animal or simply biting. We

know too little of the great Sea Serpent, to be able at present to decide the question.

INTERIOR OF AFRICA.

OBSERVATIONS MADE IN THE COUNTRY OF THE GREAT NAMAQUAS. IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PART OF SOUTH AFRICA, BY A. ALBRECHT, MISSIONARY.

[Translated from the Dutch.]

The country inhabited by the Great Namaquas, as far as I am acquainted with it, is extensive enough, but very poor. The Orange River runs through part of the country; and farther to the northward is the Fish River, which is said to be much like the Orange River, though not quite so considerable. Both rivers fall into the sea; but the mouth of neither of them has yet been sufficiently explored. There are very high mountains in the country, but we have not observed any covered with trees; those, which do not appear quite barren and rocky, are overgrown with the ouiver tree (an aloe). In the lower parts of the country, several dry or periodical rivers are found, in which there is water only for a time, and occasionally after heavy rains. The beds of these rivers are very sandy, and the water sinks into the sand to a great depth; by digging, therefore, in such places, water is commonly procured, even in the dry season. Some scattered, but not very considerable, fountains or wells, yield a supply of water during the whole year. The water of some of these wells is not quite fresh, but brackish; in some, it is hot: that fountain, for instance, where we have been established for a while, is a hot-well. The bed of the Orange River comprehends a number of small islands: the distance from the highest water mark on one bank of this river, to the highest water-mark on the opposite bank, being in some places four hours' ride. These islands have very good pasturage, but cannot be used for gardening or sowing corn, because they are too frequently overflowed.

The country has no regular succession of seasons, nor can we depend upon a rainy season every year, as in other parts of the Cape colony; but it is by thunder-storms that the country is watered occasionally. Whenever such occasional showers of rain, accompanied by heavy thunder and lightning, happen to fall, the country immediately is covered with grass; while, perhaps, at a short distance from the track of the thunder-storm, not a green leaf is to be seen. Thunder-storms, fortunately, continue the whole year through to yield a supply of water, but always occasionally, and by tracks.

The country produces no large trees or timber. The thorny tree (a *mimos*) is

rather scarce also. The natives know some roots and bulbs, growing spontaneously, which are good for eating; likewise they gather wild honey in the mountains; but for the rest, the country does not produce any wild fruits or vegetables fit for man to live upon: the cattle, however, are well fed, and the game is pretty abundant. The Great Namáguas keep cows, oxen, sheep, and goats; they have dogs also, but no other domestic animal. The largest of the wild beasts are, the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, the quacha, and the giraffa, or camelpardis; but these are not very abundant, and are rarely killed. The different species of bucks, or antelope, frequently yield us a supply of meat.

The natives of this country are much like the Hottentots; their complexion, however, is rather darker. They seem also to speak the same language. Some of the men are very stout and tall; and some appear to arrive to a considerable old age. The whole nation is divided into different tribes, each of them distinguished by a particular name, and governed by a chief, whom we use to call *Captain*. That division of the Great Namáqua nation, in which we have begun our Missionary work, is called Kaminúqua; and this likewise is the name of its captain, or chief. Our interpreters translate it into the Dutch name of *Bondelzwart*; but I cannot tell what this means. Another tribe, which inhabits chiefly the mountains, is called Okéis,—in Dutch, *Bergsche* (Mountaineers). Another tribe is called in Dutch, *Veldschoen-draegers* (such as wear shoes made of hides). The language of the Namáqua nation is spoken with the same particular sound as that of the Hottentots; and both nations, with some difficulty however, are able to understand each other. It would be almost impossible to write or to learn this language; and, in general, the natives of this country are fond of the Dutch language, and the sound of it is familiar to them.

As I have visited only some of the kraals, or villages, of the Great Namáqua nation, I cannot exactly say how numerous they may be; however, I know pretty certainly that the Kaminúqua are about 1400 souls in number, taken altogether. The tribe of the Okéis comprehends not above 800 souls: but each of the two other tribes, that I know of, is more in number than the Kaminúqua; which leads me to suppose the whole of the Great Namáqua nation to amount to 4 or 5000 souls at least. Farther to the northward, lives a nation called the Damras, which is said to be much more numerous than the Namáqua, and better provided with cattle.

The usual food of the Namáguas is milk and meat; but some of them, who are so

poor as to have no cattle at all, are obliged to live on the gum which they gather from the *kameel doorn* (a mimosa), upon the bulbs and roots growing spontaneously, and upon wild honey. The natives hunt the smaller species of bucks, and kill them with arrows, assagays; but the larger game they sometimes catch in holes, which they dig near the wells of fresh water. The Namáguas generally have their meat boiled; and the women are obliged to take care of the kitchen, and prepare the food. They make use of iron and of earthen pots for boiling meat; the iron ones being purchased, by exchange, from the colonists: the earthen ones are of their own fabric.

Occasionally they have a very strong and intoxicating beverage, made of honey. The honey, being gathered in the mountains, is thrown into an earthen jar, then mixed with water, and brought into fermentation by a certain root: this produces a kind of beer, but it is of a very intoxicating nature.

The manner in which the Great Namáguas build their houses, or, more properly speaking, construct their huts, is the same with those of the other natives of South Africa. The poles, or bending sticks, which support the huts, are placed in a circular form, and covered with matting. These huts are not higher than to allow a man to stand upright in the centre; and the entrance is a narrow opening between the mattings, into which they are obliged to creep. It is the business of the women to fit up the houses, wherever they are wanted, occasionally: they likewise make the matting to cover them; and it does not take much above half an hour to erect their habitations any where. On occasional removals from one place to another, the whole of their furniture, together with the houses themselves, that is to say, with the poles and matting, is carried by oxen.

For clothing, they make use of karosses, made of sheep skins. Five or six skins are requisite to make a kaross, which is worn the woolly side next to the skin, and also serves as a cover during the night, but is thrown aside in summer. At this time of the year the men go quite naked, except a small piece of a jackal's skin. The women are clothed with sheep-skin karosses, like the men; but, like them, throw them off in summer, and wear only a small apron of skin.

The weapons, which the Great Namáguas use, are, the assagay or javelin, and the bow. The arrows are of two different sorts; some being pointed like a harpoon, others in a more plain manner. Both are usually poisoned—the poison being taken from a wild growing plant.

Their social pleasures consist almost exclusively in dancing; but, what is curious, only the men are the performers at a dancing

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party. The dancing consists chiefly in jumping, and a violent shaking of the whole body, to the time of the music. The music is made by whistles, cut out of a certain reed, and turned in such a manner as to produce a musical sound. If even twenty whistles should be heard at once, they make them all agree. Every dancer whistles on his whistle during his performance. This kind of amusement they generally indulge in, when they are provided with honey-beer.

The work in which the men are employed, consists in taking care of the cattle, and in hunting. The task of milking, however, is chiefly left to the women; because the young men, as soon as they come of age, think it beneath them to milk a cow, and would even be banished out of the society of the men, if they should stoop to this part of domestic employment. One of the most laborious tasks, in which they are occasionally employed, is, to procure water for their cattle during the hot season of the year. They are obliged to dig large and deep holes, in, or on the banks of, the periodical rivers, to the depth sometimes of twenty feet, and from ten to twelve feet wide. Instead of a spade, they make use of the shoulder-bone of an ox; but as such holes do not fill with water, they cannot suffer the cattle to walk down to it, but are obliged to draw out the water that, at a time, is requisite for quenching the thirst of the animals. They therefore lay down two large blocks of wood, near the water-pit, and cover them with a sheep's-skin, which is to serve as a kind of watering trough; then they draw out the water in a bamboo, which one hands up to the other. This labour sometimes occupies the men half a day, during a suffocating heat, and must be extremely fatiguing. The chief, or captain, in order to set an example, is expected to work hardest on such occasions; and, indeed, we have observed our Captain Boudelzwart to work with the greatest eagerness and perseverance.

Parents are not much respected by their children. It frequently happens that the boys lift up their hand against their father or mother; and this is not looked upon even as unbecoming; for the young men value themselves upon, and are distinguished by, their dexterity and undaunted intrepidity in attacking one another. Witnessing such enormities committed by children against their parents, one is led to credit what is reported — that a father, who is unhappy enough to outlive his strength, and become a burden to the family, is carried by his sons to a solitary hut, provided with a little food for the last time, and then cruelly left there to his fate, till he breathes his last.

The Namaquas, in general, seem as capable of improvement, as they are ready to

listen to what is set before them with that view.

Their disposition, in general, is much milder than that of other heathen nations is reported to be; but I have observed that they are much inclined to be suspicious; for if but a word is said against them, by one of another nation, they immediately take the alarm, and suspect the most hostile intentions.

The Great Namaquas are in the habit of burying their dead, and observe some funeral ceremonies on such occasions. The whole of the family of the deceased follows the corpse, when carried to the grave, in a mourning procession, manifesting their grief by loud lamentations; for which, a persuasion that the deceased is lost for ever, furnishes the argument. After the corpse has been deposited in the grave, every one of the mourners throws a handful of earth upon it; and the grave being then filled up, is at last covered with a heap of stones.

In several instances they yield to superstition. The sorcerers, or conjurers, for instance, are supposed to be very powerful. These men are commonly wandering Hottentots, or bastard Hottentots, who, having learnt some trick or other, and being more crafty than those with whom they live, take advantage of their credulity. They have some notions of things that will make them unclean, in a spiritual sense, as by eating of a hare for instance. Some of the genuine Namaquas too are said to believe that their cows would not yield any milk, if their women were to drink cow-milk, this being only good for the men: the women, consequently, must content themselves with the milk of sheep and goats. Idolatry is unknown among them.

The manners of the Great Namaquas are not so unclean as those of the Hottentots were in former times: however, they grease their bodies with fat if they can get it; and the Namaqua women even prepare baths for that purpose in large gourds. They are all extremely fond of smoking tobacco, both men and women, and even go to great intemperance in this enjoyment; for some will smoke till they are intoxicated, or indisposed, by it. The pipes which they use are made of a kind of a soft green stone, which they hollow out in a conical form, and pierce the pointed part out by which they draw the smoke: not being provided with such pipes, they make shift with an emptied marrow-bone. In the room of tobacco, they frequently employ dacha, a kind of hemp; and both are occasionally mixed with that kind of reed of which the covering of their houses is made, in order to make the luxury of smoking tobacco last somewhat longer.

Their industry chiefly consists in making

the matting for the houses, this being the business of the women; in preparing the karosses, the weapons, bows, arrows, and assagays; in cleaning and drying large bottle-shaped gourds, or kalebasses, so as to serve for milk and water vessels; in hollowing out bamboos, for the use of buckets, &c. They make likewise a kind of bag, or portmanteau, of skin, in which they carry their little utensils: and they are very ingenious in making cups and basons of wood, taken from the willows that grow on the banks of the Orange River. These vessels are very well contrived, and of different sizes

VINDICATION OF HIS STATEMENT, BY THE GENTLEMAN WHO COMMUNICATED THE FORMER LETTER, DESCRIBING THE SITUATION OF THE INTERIOR OF FRANCE.

[Compare Panorama, Vol. VII. p. 526.]

Morning Chronicle, Nov. 30, No. 12,654.

"I conceive (this) to be the real situation of France, after a residence, amongst men of every description in that country, of more than seven years. I have mixed with the military, with the citizens, with farmers and the peasants, in cities, towns and villages. The atrocious robberies, plunder and murders, committed on our brave and unfortunate countrymen, have been remonstrated against in very strong language, without any redress,—conduct that an Algerine or a Tripoline Government would shrink to commit! The treatment of prisoners of war and hostages, by the French government, can be proved, and shall be laid before the British nation in full detail; and if the statement does not raise the indignation of Englishmen, they must be lost to feeling indeed. The Parisians are indifferent to peace on the Continent; they want commerce; that the Continent cannot give them; they are dissatisfied with the conscriptions daily made, that wrest from them their children and their workmen. Numbers of tradesmen of every description are obliged to stop their trade for many months, on account of their workmen being ordered to join the army. Not a Frenchman who dare speak, but complains of the insatiate ambition of Buonaparte—not one who does not see the ruin of his country. The flower of the French army is cut off. The bulletins given of every battle were scarcely read, (A) knowing the truth was kept from the public, and every officer that read them was offended at the disgusting accounts, and declared a zero should be put to every figure of the killed and wounded, to bring it any thing near the truth. (B) The French viewed with disgust the numerous maimed that return to their country, and whenever they observed conscripts going to the army, always said they were going to be butchered. (C)

Wheat is a great article of commerce in

France; and the farmer having no means to sell his wheat, prevents him from paying his rent, and as labour is very high, he suffers very severely.

Prisoners in France were conducted from the extremities of the empire, in the disgusting and degrading manner stated; many sailors, masters of merchantmen, in general drove on shore by shipwreck, or taken by privateers, were marched into the interior, amongst a people who had seen nothing of the calamities and distresses of war, and under the guard of men whose duty made them by nature furious and hard."

(A) The writer should have explained this: when the *Moniteur* is offered to an individual for perusal, some such conversation as the following takes place: "*Voulez-vous le Moniteur, Monsieur?*"—"Non: n'importe.—Mais, oui; donnez: quel conte pour aujourd'hui?" Those who understand the power of the French term, know, that the last sentence implies "what MADE-UP story for to-day?"—In places where this phrase, which is regularly used, is not safe, "num is the order of the day."

(B) This observation is correct: to the best of our judgment we have inferred, that the rule established for the guidance of the *Moniteur* historians has been, to cut off the cypher, from the true number of Frenchmen slain in battle. And this has its advantages: for a cypher (or zero) being by itself no numeral, nor marking any efficient person or persons, the writer is enabled to swear positively that "he diminished nothing from the real number." And to put this beyond all doubt, it is only necessary to recollect, that the returns of a French army, in losses after a battle, are never published; nor authenticated by any signature of officers, of whatever rank. Besides this, those who have perused the letters written from one general to another, know well that they contain statements very different from those made up for publication: and in giving information, they approach as near as possible to the insertion of the discarded zero. For one proof of the truth of this assertion, the reader is referred to Gen. Moore's campaign in Spain, by his brother: and to the intercepted letter to Soult, which is remarked on to this effect, by Mr. James Moore.

(C) There is scarcely a housekeeper in France, at this moment, who is not amenable to the conscript laws; since the mere act of giving shelter for a moment to a fugitive conscript, even not knowing him to be such; still more the giving a day's work to such an one, subjects the party to imprisonment, &c. with innumerable vexations, at the mercy!! of the military officer, who commands the department.

WORSE STILL :

The requisitionary laws, made by the "Committee of Public Safety" of infamous memory, have never been repealed; it is, therefore, in the power of any commanding officer of a district, to put ANY individual *into requisition*, on a simple demand before the prefect, or the mayor of a place, and to send him off packing to the army. Instances have been mentioned to us, in which this power has been exercised, at the request of animosity, when properly backed by a handful of *weighty reasons*;—to the infinite distress of a family, thus deprived of its head:—and to the incalculable disgrace and detriment of the community! Such is the Great Nation! Such is its present *awful state*!

We add, that by intelligence from a young friend, a conscript, who in the battle of Wagram (which our readers will recollect the French termed a decisive and glorious victory) was in that corps of the French army which last entered the combat, we learn, that *one half of this corps was destroyed*. The inference is, that of those corps which first entered the combat, *nearly the whole was previously destroyed*. It is a certain fact, that they were so reduced as not to have been capable of attacking (in the opinion of Prince John of Lichtenstein, who made that observation to the Archduke Charles, and advised his Highness to disregard them); scarcely a thousand remained collected, in order of battle, throughout the field.

The constitution of the French army does not admit of our being more explicit. Yet it may be well to know, that there is a corps reserved (*sub rosa*) for the reception of conscripts of families of a respectable class and situation in life: where they associate with others of a similar description. The cost of placing a youth in this *reserve* is about twenty-five, or thirty guineas *per annum*. This is taken, under the description of various articles of necessity or use, understood to be *furnished*; but it is much more confidently understood, that it reaches the pocket of the commanding officer, or the general:—100 conscripts at 30 guineas *annually*, is no bad speculation; neither is it a bad instance of the profits of a commanding officer. By such profits the satellites of Buonaparte are induced to support a leader, whom in their hearts they despise!

A friend to whom we are under obligation for the communication of information on this subject, assures us that he has heard several (five or six) French general officers, of whom Angereau was one, severely criticize and condemn the manoeuvres of Buonaparte; particularly on occasion of one of his combats, the result of which he called a victory. They saw their men perish uselessly, and contrary to the *rules* of tactics, by thousands.

ARMENIAN HISTORIANS.

Our men of learning have looked to the east for instruction of various kinds, and have opened to the world the treasures formerly locked up in that now unspoken language, the Sanscrit. They have also studied the Persian with success; and have favoured the public with translations of very interesting articles. The Arabic is patronised by our Universities. These languages have opened to us the histories, &c. of Mahometan or idolatrous nations; and we are not inclined to undervalue the advantages resulting from such labours. Yet we incline to express surprise, that another of the eastern languages, the Armenian, which may boast of works composed in it not less interesting than those of others, if considered simply as history, but entitled to superior attention, when known to contain early particulars of Christian events, should have furnished so little to English literature. We are apt to think too highly of classic writers and western authorities. If we were better acquainted with oriental productions, we should find them useful on a variety of occasions, on which western historians desert us. They state circumstances that would, had they been known, have superseded many controversial discussions among our divines, to say the least; and they would have contributed assistance also, on questions of geography, as well as of ancient history. There is reason to think that among the translations from Greek authors made while Armenia was the seat of learning, many works of eminent historians, and philosophers, lost to us, may yet be extant: so that, independent of what information relating to the country of Armenia, and to the nations immediately around it, might be obtained, research might be further rewarded with discoveries of what the European world of letters has long sighed after in vain.

There is also something pleasing in the consideration that science was never wholly extinct, even in what we call the dark ages: but if one part of the world were involved in darkness, another part enjoyed the blessings and light of knowledge. It may be true that, at this time, Armenia has little to boast of as to science; while Britain stands pre-eminent among nations. Nevertheless, Britain would suffer nothing by availing herself of what was formerly the advantage of Armenia, and adding these stores to the mass of her literary treasures. Whether this would meet with any difficulty, if undertaken by some of our countrymen in India, we know not. We presume however that none would occur proof against resolution; and therefore we shall introduce a few hints on the historical writers of that

country, whose labours, could we appropriate them, would certainly contribute to fill up more than one *hiatus* which we find in the completest histories we at present possess.

The Writers of Armenia are scarcely known in Europe; and the reader may be surprised to learn, that the Academy there was the most celebrated in Asia, during the period of ten centuries, *i. e.* from 440 to the taking of Constantinople in 1455. Its members consisted of theologians, poets, philosophers, historians, astronomers, and translators, well versed in the Greek, Syriac, Arabic, Persian, and Latin languages. The following fact proves that Armenia has always studied to promote instruction and a love of knowledge. Although a kingdom of Asia the farthest removed from Europe, yet a century had scarcely elapsed after the invention of printing, before Armenian presses were successfully established in Constantinople, Ispahan, Venice, Trieste, in the Taurid, in Holland, and in India.

We shall notice a few of these historians with their works.

Mar-Ibas Cadina lived about one hundred and fifty years before Christ, and was well versed in the Greek, Chaldaic, Armenian, and other languages. He is the first author who collected the scattered records of Armenia, and arranged them in an historical form. Among the numerous MSS. in the archives of Nineveh, he discovered one written in Greek, which contained this note: "This book was translated from the Chaldean language by order of Alexander the Great; it contains the history of the three first men, *Zerovan, Titan, and Japetosthes*; that of the children of these three patriarchs; and a recital of celebrated acts during a long course of years." From these sources *Mar-Ibas* compiled his history of Armenia, which he wrote in Greek and Chaldaic, and presented to Prince Valarsaces, who received it most graciously, and deposited it in the archives of Nisibis; he also caused a marble column to be erected in his palace, with the principal events recorded thereon. From other materials found in Armenia, *Mar-Ibas* continued the history down to his own times, and wrote the particular history of the first and second Arsaces, as well as that of Valarsaces and of his son. *Moses of Choren* and others have borrowed from him.

Agatanghelus, was secretary to King Tiridates, and wrote the history of his own times. He has dilated much on paganism, temples, statues, and pagan deities; and on the introduction and establishment of Christianity in Armenia. His style is simple and elegant. His work was published at Constantinople, in 4to. in 1709. There is a copy of it in the Imperial Library at Paris.

Glag-Zenob, an abbot, wrote a political and religious history of his own times, in the fourth century. It was printed at Constantinople in 4to.

Pazant-Posdus, a bishop, wrote a general history of Armenia, from the earliest period, down to the year 390. It is divided into six books, the two first of which are lost: the others were printed at Constantinople in one vol. 4to. in 1730. Notwithstanding its prolixity, dryness, and want of arrangement, it contains many interesting circumstances drawn from the records of ancient temples, which fell into the hands of the first founders of Christianity. Procopius has copied from it most of his historical facts relating to Persia and Armenia.

Gorgun flourished in the fifth century, and has left a civil and religious history of Armenia. His style is elegant and lively; sometimes vehement and sublime. The work is only to be met with in MS. and is not very scarce.

Elisha, a learned doctor, in the same century, wrote a history of the wars between Armenia and Persia, and other events, between the years 439 and 463. This work was printed at Constantinople in 1764, and is esteemed a master-piece of eloquence. His style is vigorous and pathetic, and the battles are depicted with such brilliancy of colouring, that the reader might imagine himself to be present.

Chiragazi, a celebrated astronomer in the seventh century, wrote the lives of many illustrious personages in Armenia, and different treatises on the calendar and computation of time. The French have often used them for chronological calculations, and fixing historical data. There is a copy at Paris.

Catholikos, patriarch of Armenia, wrote a history of his country from the time of Haik, down to the year 920, and the chronology of all the patriarchs to his own succession to that dignity. His history is written with all the pathos of eloquence, and is celebrated for its order and correctness. It ranks as high among the Armenians as *Livy* does among the Latins. The Imperial Library, in Paris, possesses a copy of this valuable work.

Erez of Edessa lived in the twelfth century, and has left us a history of Armenia, from 954 to 1128. The contemporary facts are stated with great exactness and precision. He details at large the events of his own country, of the neighbouring nations, and the crusades. There are two copies in MS. at Paris.

Anesi, in the same century, compiled a chronicon, containing the genealogy of the patriarchs from Adam to our Saviour; details on the posterity of Shem, Ham, and Japhet; and a chronology of the kings and

patriarchs of Armenia, according to the Olympic, Christian, and Armenian era, down to 1164. The work is precise and methodical;—the chronology has been continued by other hands to the year 1337, but it wants the exactness of Anezi. There is a fine MS. copy of these works at Paris.

Glaesi Nerses, patriarch of Armenia, was one of its greatest poets: he flourished in the twelfth century. He has admirably versified the history of Armenia down to his own times, and composed a prosopopetic and tragic poem on the capture of Edessa. He has left many familiar and encyclic letters; some in verse, others in prose: they throw great light on the civil and ecclesiastical history of Armenia. We cannot too much admire the charms of his style, and the inimitable harmony of his verses. Superb editions of his works have been published in Amsterdam, Venice, Constantinople, and in Russia.

Varian Vanagan, composed a history of Armenia, from the creation to the year 1267, containing many observations on the adjacent countries. This author was versed in several of the oriental languages, and had consulted various archives and ancient documents. All that he relates of antiquity is founded on the testimony of magi, pagan priests, and Jewish, Persian, and Arabian authors. The only copy known, is in the Armenian convent at Venice.

[To be continued.]

MERMAID.

[From the Gentleman's Magazine.]

Society's Hall, Oct. 16.

Mr. Urban,

The letters from Caithness respecting the Mermaid, which have lately appeared in the public prints, having excited considerable attention, the Glasgow Philosophical Society, by their Secretary, wrote to the Rev. Mr. Mackay, Minister of Reay, to ascertain the authenticity of these documents. The following polite answer was, in due course, received by the Society.—*James Watt*, Pres.

Sir, In terms of your and the Philosophical Society's request, I have to inform you that my daughter wrote a letter to Mrs. Innes, Dowager of Sandside, concerning the strange phenomenon seen near this place, merely for private information; without the smallest suspicion of any other use to be made of it. But, having excited Sir John Sinclair's curiosity, he obtained a copy of this letter, and it seems that by one of his friends it found its way to the English Newspapers. Though I never saw the letter, either originally or in the papers, I have good reason to suppose that it is a genuine docu-

ment. With regard to the animal's timidity, I have only to say, that two servant-maids and a boy being at the time down among the rocks, it was the cries of the boy that made it first disappear. It soon re-appeared farther out in the sea; and ultimately disappeared, after having taken its course a considerable way along the shore, the spectators following, and walking on until they lost hope of its coming up again. The schoolmaster of Thurso's letter is also genuine; and he is a gentleman whose veracity is not called in question.—I am respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient humble servant,

DAVID MACKAY, Reay, Oct. 3.

James Boag, Esq. Sec. Phil. So.

High-street, Glasgow.

Compare Panorama, Vol. VII. pp. 118, 508, for the letters referred to.

CAUSE OF INJURY FROM THE CULINARY USE OF COPPER VESSELS.

It is well known, that the use of copper vessels in cookery, has been attended with fatal consequences; and that it is justly dreaded. Notwithstanding this, a variety of articles are boiled, &c. in such vessels, without acquiring any injurious qualities. An ingenious French chemist, M. Proust, determined to discover, if possible, the cause of these contradictory effects. He boiled for above an hour, in a copper vessel, a quantity of strong vinegar, which completely filled the vessel. The most active re-agents, such as sulphurated hydrogen, did not discover the smallest effect produced on the liquor by the copper.—He found, however, that the copper becomes oxidized (rusted) only when the vessel is *not full*; but a portion of its surface is exposed to the action of the atmosphere, the oxygen of which combines with it. This theory he verified by many experiments. The heat produced during the time of boiling, by greatly dilating the air which comes into contact with the copper, prevents this combination. The accidents, then, which sometimes follow on the use of copper vessels, are occasioned by suffering liquids to cool in them, during which time the air has access to the surface of the copper.

This theory certainly explains by what means it may happen that one person shall use with safety, and consider as not unwholesome, the same vessel, which another person shall use and find extremely nauseous and deleterious. Some such cases have been the subjects of public inquiry, and have proved very perplexing to medical men.

Our domestic dames will also perceive by this suggestion, the reason why cleanliness is their security when their culinary vessels become partly untinned, &c. by continued use.

FRENCH BIRDS IN CAGES: OR, WHISTLING
AND SINGING RENDERED SUBSERVIENT
TO INTERCOURSE IN IMPRISONMENT.

That the French are a very ingenious and inventive people, is readily acknowledged; and in nothing, is this quality more evident, than in those devices to which their military officers have had recourse, to amuse and circumvent those whom they intended to subdue. They cannot always be vindicated, in the judgment of strict honour and integrity: yet on some occasions, as on that which we are now to introduce, it would be moroseness, rather than morality, to impugn the alleviation of sufferings, by means of a skilful application of ingenuity.

We have to need to bring to recollection, the imprisonment of several French general officers, who were induced to seek their personal safety, by quitting the French army, then in insurrection, after the famous *tenth of August*. These were arrested in their attempt to escape to Holland; and were first seized by the King of Prussia: from his custody they passed into that of Austria, and were long confined in the castle of Olmutz. It is to the honour of Madame de la Fayette, that she desired, and obtained, leave to share the captivity of her husband: but other wives were not so happy.

To maintain some intercourse with his family, M. de Pusy, one of the imprisoned party, concealed a tooth-pick, and mingling his spittle (not seldom his *tears*) with soot, he contrived to write in the blank pages of some pious works, which he hired from a bookseller in the town, such information as he desired should reach his wife. It is true, that he was never without a guard in his room, but this guard having little taste for the *pious meditations* contained in the works procured by M. de Pusy, he slept, as many others do when such things are in question. That the bookseller had *weighty reasons* for tolerating the destruction of his treatises on godliness need not to be doubted.

Moreover, it so happened, that although each of these prisoners was kept solitary, yet they were within hearing of each other, when standing at the windows of their respective chambers. To improve this advantage they bethought themselves of the following method:—There is at Paris a number of tunes, called airs of the *Pont Neuf*, or those popular ballads that were sung at the corners of the streets, and on other public places. The words belonging to these airs, were so well known, that to strike up a few of the notes, was to recall the words, which they accompanied. The captives at Olmutz gradually composed for themselves, a musical vocabulary, by whistling these notes at their

windows, and this vocabulary after a while became so complete, and even *rich*, that two or three notes from each air formed their alphabet, and effected their intercourse. They communicated to each other, by this mean, news concerning their families, the progress of the war, and when by good fortune one of them procured a gazette, he *whistled* the contents of it to his partners in suffering. When any event particularly interested them, we may suppose, the *chorus* was proportionately loud and general.

The commander of the fortress was constantly informed of these unaccountable concerts. He listened; he set spies; but the whole being a *language of convention*, the most practised musician would have failed, in detecting the intention and real *expression* of the notes he heard. In vain was whistling forbid: was whistling ever made a crime? was it ever punished? At length the Austrian was tired out; and confined himself to convictions, that among the most difficult things in nature, was that of keeping Frenchmen from whistling and singing!

ASTRONOMICAL PREDICTIONS.—LUNAR
CYCLES.

A short time ago a paper was circulated, containing predictions of what weather we might expect in England during several months; with a general character of the whole year. This was attributed to Dr. Herschell; and said to have been deduced by him from astronomical observations. The Dr. finding it obtained credit by this means, thought it proper to deny the paper, publicly. We have suspected that something to this purpose might be *conjectured*, by adverting to the lunar period of *nineteen years*, which bringing repeatedly the same aspects of the principal heavenly bodies to the influence of which our globe is subjected, might also bring the same seasons, as resulting from the same causes. The registers of seasons, &c. have of late years been so accurately kept, that much may be expected from comparisons between the later series of memoranda: for instance, those made during the latter half of the last century or earlier: by which three or four revolutions might be compared, and their influences (within certain limits) be either admitted and confirmed, or denied and confuted. Perhaps some hints might be given in the ensuing month of January of the general character of the year 1810. We are far enough from placing any confidence in the astrological predictions of Messrs. Moore, Wing, and Partridge, as delivered to the world in these degenerate days; yet we think it likely that some general ideas might be deduced from observations grounded on experience.

SALT MINES LOST TO AUSTRIA,
BY THE TREATY OF VIENNA: THE PRO-
DUCTS OF THOSE RESERVED: WITH
QUERIES ON THE ORIGIN OF SALT.

The city of Wieliczka, in Gallicia, the salt pits of which are to be possessed in common by the sovereigns of Austria and Saxony, according to the late treaty of peace between Austria and France, contains a parcel, or parcels, of miserable wooden huts, and scarcely any better buildings. It stands immediately over an enormous mountain of salt, which is covered by about twenty fathoms of earth. The mine is divided into three stories, one below the other; each is about thirty fathoms in height, about two thousand fathoms in length, and four hundred in breadth. Inasmuch that those who explore these mines affirm, that whoever would devote six hours every day to the examination of them, would employ six weeks in visiting the whole of these subterranean vaults.

The value of the products of this mine is estimated at 300,000 ducats annually. Besides losing a moiety of this income, Austria loses the salt pits of Hallein near Salzburg, which, with those of Berchtholdsgaden, yield 387,000 quintals of salt yearly.

From the shores of the Adriatic sea also, a quantity of salt was procured every year; in 1805, Austria relinquished the salt-pits of Hall.

Notwithstanding these losses of mines of this valuable mineral, Austria is not destitute of salt springs. Not far from Wieliczka, is the rich source of salt, Bochnia, which is of vast extent, though not more than twelve salt-pits have hitherto been in operation at the same time. This is still retained by the emperor. Beside the refineries of Wieliczka and Bochnia, there were in Gallicia fourteen salt works belonging to the sovereign, and two hundred salt works belonging to private proprietors, which produced 900,000 quintals of salt, annually. Hallstadt and Ischel at the source of the Fraun, in higher Austria, furnished annually 600,000 quintals: the salt works of Styria furnished 154,000 quintals, and those of Hungary 800,000 quintals.

These salt mines are among the most perplexing as well as surprising objects to which the investigation of naturalists can be directed. Are they immense deposits of salt formed by settlements from the sea in former ages? Is the saltness of the sea owing to the dissolution of similar masses, to which the otherwise fresh waters of the Ocean having had access, have thereby been rendered salt? Was salt one of the constituent elements of the original creation? or is it a secondary production? In Ethiopia there are mountains of salt, and the substance of the salt they yield is so extremely hard that it serves the purposes of

circulation as a medium of commerce: it is truly a rock. These mountains, if we rightly understand the descriptions of them, rise high above the surface of the earth: the mines of Austria lie deep below the general level of the country around them: each of these natural collections of salt is inexhaustible. Elsewhere salt springs are found, and water impregnated with the mineral is drawn up (pumped up) and afterwards refined, as at Upton in Worcestershire; while in other places, as on the borders of the Caspian [Compare Panorama, Vol. II. p. 1251] the waters exposed to the action of the air, supply incredible masses of salt, year after year, without any sensible diminution. In these stores nature presents salt in a pure and perfect state: not so, in that immense and more than inexhaustible repository the Ocean from whence the salt used in our island is drawn. In sea water, salt is found in various proportions, but always mingled with earth, by which its quality is debased. These it should be the object of the refiner and salt-boiler to separate: so that, when the product of his labours is applied to the purpose of resisting putrefaction, and counteracting the decomposing properties of the atmosphere, the viands committed to its protecting power, should be effectually secured, and preserved.

The revenue drawn by this country from its salt works, is among the most considerable resources of the state; but that the duty on this necessary article is all profit to the nations is not the opinion of the most judicious statesmen; it is to the weight of the duties that the impurities by which British salt is deprived are attributed.

METHOD OF PACKING TREES AND
PLANTS.

The valuable application of the long white moss of the marshes, to the packing of young trees for exportation, by Mr. Wm. Curtis, of the Botanic Garden, Brompton, is done by squeezing out part of the moisture from the moss, and laying courses of it about three inches thick, interposed with other courses of the trees (shortened in their branches and roots), stratum above stratum, till the box is filled, when the whole must be trodden down, and the lid properly secured. The trees will want no further care during a voyage of six, seven, or twelve months, as the moss is wonderfully retentive of moisture, whilst its antiseptic quality prevents fermentation or putrefaction. In fact, vegetation proceeds even in this confined state, and blanched and tender shoots are formed, which must be gradually inured to the external light and air. This white moss is very common in most parts of Europe and America, which renders the application more easy, and the discovery more important.

ERUPTION OF ETNA.

[Compare Panorama, Vol. VII. p. 342.]

Copy of a Letter from a British Officer in Sicily, to his Friends in Scotland.

Messina, April 24, 1809.

On the morning of the 27th of March, about 7 o'clock, advices of an eruption of Etna were conveyed hither, by a very swift courier, a cloud of black ashes from the mountain top, which is 50 miles distant in a straight line. These ashes borne on a hard gale of wind, showered into the town in such quantities, that several cart loads might have been collected from the streets and house tops. They resembled gunpowder; so much so indeed, that an Irish soldier, in the citadel, called out, "Blood and turf! the wind has blown open the magazine doors, and here's all the powder blowing about the barracks."

Soon after daylight, an awful bellowing and horizontal shaking of the mountain excited a general alarm among the inhabitants of its vast regions. Uncertain where the calamity might fall, many deserted their houses. This shock was immediately succeeded by a furious eruption of ashes from the great crater, which formed immense clouds, and covered an amazing extent of country. So violent was the discharge, that a vast quantity overspread the country, many miles to windward of the spot whence they issued.

On the evening of the same day, an eruption of lava took place at a short distance below, whose terrible stream flowed down the mountain about three miles, and then divided into two branches. This volcano soon ceased burning, and another broke out next day, with greater fury than the former, about five miles lower down, at a place called Monte Negro. This one displayed three vast columns of flame and smoke, and its lava extended, in a few days, across the woody region, to the distance of three or four leagues. Hitherto we have heard of no guide bold enough to conduct the curious traveller as far as either of these eruptions, because of the vast and deceitful heaps of snow and ashes scattered about the two upper regions of the mountain; nor has any person, I believe, been yet so rash as to ascend higher than one which broke out two hours after the first alarm, about twelve miles below Monte Negro, and eight west of Lingua Grossa, a town on the north east side, near the foot of Etna. This eruption has formed a row of craters, within a space of about two miles, forming, with the others, an irregular line, running in a north-east direction from the top of the mountain.

From the dark bosom of a wood of tall

firs and huge oaks, spread over steep and craggy hills and close valleys, conceive twelve craters or mouths, two unceasingly, and the rest at intervals, with a noise like a tremendous chorus of several thousand cannons, muskets, and sky rockets, discharging flame, and showers of burning rocks of various forms and all magnitudes, from several yards in diameter down to the smallest pebble, which according to their weight and bulk, ascended from 200 to 1000 feet.—The two forementioned craters, (or rather double crater) the lowest of the row down the mountain, formed the principal object of this awful and magnificent scene—they were the only craters which did not seem to labour. Their joint emissions had encompassed them with a black oblong hill of ashes and lava stones: 30 yards above the top of which their mingling flames furiously ascended, in one immense blaze, which seemed 100 yards in breadth. Amidst this blaze, vast showers of rocks, rising and falling, were continually passing each other. About the middle of the whole line of craters was situated one, which laboured the most, and made the loudest, the heaviest, the highest, and the most dangerous discharges; from the rocks of which our party twice narrowly escaped; one or two, of considerable size, falling within a pace of us:—I think the lava flowed only from a few of the chief craters, particularly the double one. During the emissions of rock and flame, the boiling matter was seen, in slow undulating waves, issuing through the sides, close to the bottom of the black hills of ashes. The double crater appeared completely isolated by the lava of the others. Just below it, all the lavas uniting formed one grand stream of various breadths, from half a mile to 50 yards, which leaving the fir wood, pursued its destructive course down a rocky part of the mountain, interspersed with oaks; until, about five miles below the double crater, it entered some vineyards, after dividing into two branches, the principal one of which advancing a mile farther, directly threatened the house of Baron Carri. Within 200 yards of this house, it entered a hollow way, which, it was hoped, would turn its course; but, going on according to the direction of the impelling fluid behind, its loose rocks rolling off the main body, soon filled up the small ravine, and formed a causeway for itself to pass. The other branch took the direction of Lingua Grossa, and arrived near the Baron Cagnone's house, whose inhabitants, as well as those of the town, were trembling for their property, when the eruption ceased.

The stream sometimes branched off and joined again, forming islands as it flowed along.—Sometimes its banks were formed by the sides of ravines; but where the coun-

try was open, it formed its own, which, from the porous nature of the lava, imbibed the cool air, and soon hardened into lofty banks of many feet in thickness. It gradually thickened in advancing, until about four miles from the crater, when it began to assume the appearance of a vast rugged mound of black rocks, or stones and cinders, moving almost imperceptibly along. By daylight, the appearance of this amazing stream, or moving mound, was black, and might be compared to a long tract of ploughed ground, moving and smoking along, raised on banks from fifteen to forty feet high. The end of it, however, presented a bold front of vivid fire, about fifteen or sixteen feet high, and eighty paces in extent.—While it moved forward in a body, the loose stones and cinders, presenting less resistance to the stream behind, impelled in a continual succession from the top, rolled cracking down its rough sloping sides and front, advancing before the main body, and burning the grass, the weeds, and grape vines, like light troops skirmishing on the front and flanks of an army marching in solid columns.

I never saw a painting which gave me any thing like a correct idea of lava, yet it appears no difficult task. I could discern nothing of the fluid part of the stream; yet, until somewhat cooled by flowing several miles, it must be liquid immediately underneath the thin light crusted surface. Just after issuing from the crater, I should think it flowed at the rate of four miles an hour; half way down the stream (whose whole extent, when the eruption ceased, was about six miles) a mile and a half an hour; and so on, gradually decreasing in velocity to the most advanced part, where its progress was a few hundred yards a day.

The night view of the eruption and stream of lava, was truly grand and terrific. The rocks emitted from the craters displayed a white heat and the flames an intense red; when the adjacent hills and valleys were covered by a shower of rocks, and they appeared for a time, beautifully spangled with stars, whose silver brightness, as well as that of the burning trees, formed a no less admirable contrast to the flames of the crater, than did the evening songs of the birds to the howling of the mountain. The lava was a fancied infernal fire, streaked with black and red, presenting a horrid contrast to the dark surrounding scenery. Here down the rocky slopes, it rolled a cataract of fire; there, it displayed floating mounts crowned with imagined fortresses. Trees were seen as if growing from the fire, whose parched branches and burning trunks exhibited the idea of desolation with all its horrors.

The country about Lingua Grossa, Pie Monte and other places on that side of the

mountain, now lies covered with ashes, three or four inches in depth. Though some lands have suffered by lava, many have been manured by ashes, and the whole island is freed from the dread of earthquakes for some time to come. Thus we find,

“All partial evil universal good.”

Except the inhabitants likely to suffer, little concern or curiosity was expressed by the Sicilians. Even the Baron Carri, whose house was so much in danger, with superstitious obstinacy rejected, for a long while, every proposal of the British officers for removing his property, “No, no,” he always replied, “let it be as God wills it.” At length, however, self-interest prevailed, the solitary walls alone remained. But when the lava had arrived within 200 yards of this deserted habitation, the eruption ceased, to the great joy of the natives, who attributed this mercy to the merits and interference of the patron saints, whose images were daily brought from Castilone (a distance of three miles) in procession, during the progress of this calamity, and placed, while mass was performed, amidst the tears of a wretched multitude, a few yards in front of a slow advancing fire. This procession was composed of the miserable and ragged natives, of both sexes and all ages, crying and sobbing, beating their breasts, tearing their hair, and flogging their backs in penance, while the priests were calling on all their saints to assist them. On their way to the lava, they stopped at the Baron's house, from the balcony of which the chief priest, with the most violent gestures of grief, delivered a short sermon, in which he told them, the eruption was a judgment upon their sins, and recommended to them to mend their lives, and pray to all the saints to intercede for them. Every pause of this discourse was filled with a general burst of tears, beating of breasts, tearing of hair, and flogging of backs. I was never more affected by any scene of public distress.

What mortal dare to think he breathes a single moment without divine assistance! How feeble, how insignificant does he feel, who stands within 200 yards of these furious volcanoes. What must be the pangs of his heart, who beholds his earthly property, his native fields in a few hours irrecoverably overwhelmed! Transitory, compared with this, are all the other scourges of the earth. The fertility swept away by floods and tempests, by war and by pestilence, is shortly succeeded by smiling plenty.—The fields of Austerlitz and Jena, already revive from their late desolation. Even Spain may perhaps smile ere long; but many successive generations, with hopeless sighs, must view the black and barren rocks which have buried the native lands of their unhappy forefathers!

MR. ELPHINSTON.

To the Editor of the Literary Panorama.

Sir,

I now send you the letters alluded to in the memoirs of Mr. Elphinston, published in your last number, (Pan. Vol. VII. p. 529.) and with them a letter to myself, lately received, by placing which at the head of the others, you will greatly oblige

Your obedient servant,

R. C. DALLAS.

*Chelsea, December 16th 1809.**A Letter from the Rev. William Hawtayne, to R. C. Dallas.**Caledonia, November 28, 1809.*

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 7th instant, came to my hands only yesterday, having been at home for the last three weeks; which will account for my not paying it quicker attention. You are certainly at full liberty, to make any use you please of what I have said of our respected friend. It was the sincere ebullition of truth, according to my own sentiments, and though I may say I am sorry, in not being able, situated as I am, to contribute to the honour of his memory and character, I am convinced that my silence will not be regretted. With regard to the tenour of his life, there can be but one opinion, for he was an honest, upright man; and from his works, much, no doubt, might be produced highly to his credit. But he was as much unacquainted with the world, as if he had passed his days in a monastery. His own integrity, perhaps, taught him to talk of mankind, as they should be, not as they really are. So that he was often led to give praise, where it was not due, in a manner that might have exposed him to the imputation of being a flatterer. This, you will say, was erring on the right side. On general subjects, therefore, enough may be found to do him lasting honour. And I am glad, on this score, to have him in such hands.

I perfectly agree with you, that Mrs. Elphinston's conduct has been truly exemplary; his friends will ever respect her most highly. In remembering his spotless character, they will remember the exceeding degree, in which his wife contributed to his happiness. Without such a friend and helpmate, the provision made for him would have failed in its purport; for Mr. Elphinston was as unfit to take care of himself, as any man I ever met with. With wishing you every success in all your undertakings, particularly in this,*

I am, dear Sir, Yours, very sincerely,
WILLIAM HAWTAYNE.

* This was added, in consequence of my declaring an intention, to publish a volume,

From Mr. Elphinston to Mrs. Strahan.

How shall I impart to you, what must fill you at once with pleasure, and with pain? The happy departure of our dear, dear mother, who was last night, about seven, delivered from the longest increase of constant suffering, that ever, perhaps, exercised the patience of a mortal; but, in all, God was gracious; her patience persisted, and obtained the victory. For about a week past, excess of distress and of weakness, with an utter inability, of rest or sustenance, sometimes deprived our dear mother of her wonted distinctness; but, in the main, her consciousness of innocence, the humble confidence she has immoveably placed in the goodness of God, her Creator and Redeemer, preserved her almost cheerful, in the midst of pain; till at length she seemed to have blunted the sting of death himself, and with the most edifying, and most amiable serenity, she resigned her spirit into the hands of God who gave it: but not without blessing you, and yours, and me a few hours before, in the most solemn manner her enfeebled powers could express. She received the holy communion on Sunday morning, as her last and best *viaticum* (or provision), having taken little other refreshment for some days; except, perhaps, a little jelly, or a mouthful of wine and water; all yesterday she was perfectly distinct, and charmingly serene to the last.

I have met with abundance of kindness, and sympathy from all our friends; particularly Miss Garioch, who begs to make her compliments of condolence (as, I may say, do all the rest) in the sincerest manner.

And now, my dear sister, allow me to give you the advice I am myself on all hands receiving; but which is easier to give than to take, though not the less indispensable. Nothing can indeed forbid yielding some time to nature; who, I thank God, has done tolerably her duty to me. But afterwards I hope, we shall feel what we can now only express, great thankfulness, for the so long enjoyment of so uncommon a parent; and for the unspeakable patience and other virtues and graces of her life; of which the happy, though humble consciousness, afforded such consolation at the last. Oh! may we, and all, where her influence, or example can extend; oh! may we live her life, that our latter end may be like her's!

The coffining is just performed, with much decency, as without affectation, according to her own dear injunctions, which to

for Mrs. Elphinston, to consist of a selection of Mr. Elphinston's writings and letters, preceded by a more detailed memoir of him, and a portrait—an intention in which, I trust, I shall be supported by the public.

us, will ever be sacred. The interment is to be to-morrow at five in the afternoon, of which I hope to give you an account, by next post; in the mean time, I shall not forbid you to mingle your tears with mine; the tears of nature with the thanks of reason.

I mean to leave this house, which can afford me very small comfort, in a few days; and move to a little house, in the Fountain-Close, where I shall become the doctor's nearer neighbour; though indeed he has been ever a near neighbour to me, particularly upon the present occasion, on which I have been obliged, not a little, to his assistance.

May God comfort and support you and yours; and grant us a happy meeting, when we may pour our souls into each other more freely! my frequent prayer, who am ever your own

JAMES ELPHINSTON.

Edinburgh, * September 11, 1750.

From Dr. Johnson.

Dear Sir,

You have, as I find by every kind of evidence, lost an excellent mother; and I hope you will not think me incapable of partaking of your grief. I have a mother, now eighty-two years of age; whom therefore I must soon lose, unless it please God, that she rather should mourn for me. I read the letters, in which you relate your mother's death to Mrs. Sirahan; and I think I do myself honour, when I tell you that I read them with tears. But tears are neither to me nor to you of any farther use, when once the tribute of nature has been paid. The business of life summonses us away from useless grief; and calls to the exercise of those virtues, of which we are lamenting our deprivation. The greatest benefit which one friend can confer upon another, is to guard, and incite and elevate his virtues. This your mother will still perform, if you diligently preserve the memory of her life, and of her death: a life, so far as I can learn, useful, wise and innocent; and a death, resigned, peaceful and holy. I cannot forbear to mention that neither reason nor revelation denies you to hope, that you may increase her happiness by obeying her precepts, and that she may, in her present state, look with pleasure upon every act of virtue, to which her instructions or example have contributed. Whether this be more than a pleasing dream, or a just opinion of separate spirits, is indeed of no great importance to us, when we consider ourselves as acting under the eye of God. Yet surely there is something pleasing in the belief, that our separation from those whom we love, is merely corporeal; and it may be a great incitement to virtuous friendship, if it can be made probable, that a union, which has received the divine approbation, shall continue to eternity.

There is one expedient, by which you may in some degree continue her presence. If you write down minutely, what you can remember of her from your earliest years; you will read it with great pleasure, and receive from it many hints of soothing recollections, when time shall remove her yet farther from you, and your grief shall be matured to veneration. To this, however painful for the present, I cannot but advise you, as to a source of comfort and satisfaction in the time to come: for all comfort and all satisfaction, is sincerely wished you by, dear Sir,

Your most obliged, most obedient

And most humble servant,

Sept. 25, 1750.

SAMUEL JOHNSON.

From Mr. E. to Dr. Johnson.

Dear Sir,

While I doubted my ability of making a suitable return to your former letter, the unexpected as unmerited comfort, and next to inspired excellence of last Sunday's, filled me with a transport of gratitude and admiration, which still almost totally deprives me of the power of speaking it; the first sentiment I was capable of expressing, was a rapture of thankfulness to the great creator and comforter of the world, that still such a friend remained in it; and then, that I, who can plead so small a claim, or promise so poor a return; that I should possess such a share in a friendship, which orators have preached, poets have painted, and princes have wished in vain. But I shall not tire you, with all you have made me feel; nor offend your delicacy with praise, as undesired as deserved. Be it my glory to improve your exalted precepts; and so to cultivate that benevolence, as to preserve such a correspondent!

The treasures of my dear mother's letters, which I have been long amassing, and which I shall ever guard with veneration, will greatly facilitate the painful, though pious task you prescribe: which it might indeed almost wholly save me; but which I am fully determined by your sage advice, literally to perform. If I shall eagerly embrace every scheme that can perpetuate the memory, and even the presence, of my beloved, my honoured guardian; that can preserve and invigorate those important lessons, to which I owe all I have that is valuable; all that has been my past, that constitutes my present, or shall found my future happiness; with how much greater ardour shall I then pursue a method, which I am fond to believe may increase the felicity of my best benefactress; or which may at least animate a piety lasting as my life, in return of a piety lasting as hers? Long may, dear Sir, you possess your long possessed parent; and

late may my duty of congratulations be turned into my debt of condolence! Some of my friends, to whom I communicated your letter, have insisted with me to put it into *Scot's Magazine*, for the benefit of my country. But, however sensible I am of its uncommon value, and of the consolation it might convey to thousands, who cannot boast such a correspondent; yet, certain scruples have obliged me to deny the benevolent request; in hopes that I shall easily prevail with you, Sir, to favour the public with an essay, comprising the principal thoughts of the letter, and purposely adapted to still more extensive utility. Though I would not willingly lavish my private treasures, far less publish ought without its author's leave; I shall join with no less ardour in the public gratitude, that you shall have so extended the happiness, without impairing the honour conferred on one, whose glory it is to subscribe himself, dear Sir, your most obliged, and most obedient servant,

JAMES ELPHINSTON.

Edinburgh, October 4, 1750.

Fram Mr. E. to Dr. Johnson.

I thought you, dear Sir, in my debt, but alas! my sister's letter, which I yesterday received, proves me very deeply in yours. And oh! that I were as able as willing to pay. Your tender friendship and exalted genius flew unasked to my aid, when I lost my, then, nearest and dearest relation: oh! that I could now minister equal comfort to you, bereft of a nearer and dearer. I can indeed (and am proud to own it) participate your sorrow, if hence it can find any alleviation; and do with the more tender sensibility join in mourning your loss, that I now can, from tasting a like happy union, judge what must have been your enjoyment. To paint my notion of the latter were to augment your grief; my idea of the former is scarce to myself supportable. It forces however upon me a consideration, which I have hitherto been willing to banish from my mind; that the strongest human tie must one day be broken, that the happiest pair one day must part; that one shall probably go a moment before the other, to complete perhaps the probation of both, and prepare their eternal reunion. For me, therefore, it is good to sorrow with you, as well as to hope. But surely, my dear friend, it were as bold as unnecessary for me to offer any hints either of consolation or counsel to a sufferer, who has so powerfully taught the public in general, and me in particular, to indulge nature within the limits of reason, and to exalt the man into the Christian.

But, since that modesty, which ever accompanies superior merit, has prompted

your grief to seek the aid it used to convey; in obedience I must answer, and in justice declare, that, of the various liniments which allayed my distress, none was equal to your public, far less to your private productions. Other sources of solace you know better than myself. I have therefore only to mix my tears with yours, and to wish you every inward and outward help in this your time of need. Nor can I doubt but the religion and virtue whose cause you have so effectually espoused, will support under every pressure their brave, their faithful advocate. In this persuasion, as in every good wish to Mr. Johnson, I must be joined, not only by my dearest, who feels most tenderly for him; but by all the sensible and the worthy of this kingdom, who, though mourning that the *Rambler* is come to the end of his labours, cannot but congratulate themselves as well as him, that his labours have ended as they begun. How happy must I therefore deem myself in privately sharing with your sorrow or joy, and in styling myself with equal tenderness and truth, dearest Sir, your most obliged, most respectful, and most affectionate servant,

JAMES ELPHINSTON.

Edinburgh, March 26, 1752.

To Dr. Johnson.

Dear Sir,

I have just learned my new debt of condolence; of which the greatness does but put me in mind, how little you need its payment. While I must however grieve with you, through a friendship, where gratitude is but a feeble impulse, it is some joy for me to understand, that no distance, either of place, or of time; no immediate attention, of whatever importance; has been able even to blunt those filial feelings, which are inseparable from a noble mind. But, though affection and sympathy claim both their indulgence; I may at least return the kind hint you lent me, on a like occasion; that "tears are neither to you nor to me, of any farther use, when once the tribute of nature has been paid."

I need not, dear Sir, insinuate to you, that neither your parent nor mine was called away, till weary with age, and ripe for heaven; any more than that the longer we were blest with their company on earth, the shorter shall be our separation from them.

Meantime I think, but again with you, that duty even to the dead, as well as the living, bids us moderate that grief we would not stifle; and return, as soon as possible, to the exercise of those faculties, which the worthies we mourn have transmitted us for the service of a world, that never stands more in need of their aid, than when she seems least to deserve it.

I hope to find you the first day the weather will allow me, enforcing those precepts you both publicly and privately inculcate with so singular power, by a still more powerful example. For, as every solace is your due from at least every Briton; as proud must I be to contribute my little peculiar, as to think how peculiarly it is your due from, dearest Sir, your most affectionate, as most obliged,

JAMES ELPHINSTON.

Brompton, February 22d 1752.

BRITISH AGRICULTURE IN REQUEST: IMPROVED VALUE OF PRODUCTS BY ITS ADOPTION.

The peaceful rivalry of the plough and the spade, to whatever heights it may be carried between two nations, has never met with our censure; on the contrary, we have cheered those engaged in it, while we have endeavoured to expose the false glories of the ambitious. It is to the honour of our island, that this field of battle is yielded to us by our rival, and that among the most popular works publishing at Paris, and confessedly among the most useful, is "A Course of English Agriculture," edited by M. Pietet. This Course, in fact, forms a part of the *Bibliothèque Britannique* of that writer; but he has been induced to comply with solicitations to publish it in a separate treatise, for the benefit of French agriculturists.

M. Pietet is a native of Geneva; his associate in the promotion of agriculture is M. Felleberg, who has procured models of the most desirable implements of agriculture, from England and elsewhere, to which he had added improvements, to meet his own purposes; and he has formed an experimental farm on a large scale, at Hofwyl, in Switzerland. Here he educates youth *professionally* to the management of farms, and endeavours to shew them the best methods of procedure. The expence of this institution was for some years supposed to exceed the profit; but at length M. Felleberg has published a statement, shewing very satisfactory results.

It appears from the comparison instituted, that on a space of 32,500 French feet, by the usual course of agriculture in Switzerland under the old management, the product would have been worth no more than 25 French livres; and that in land of the best quality, and under the best management heretofore practiced, the same space of ground would have yielded products to the value of 63 livres: whereas the medium profit of the arable lands of Hofwyl is 176 livres, on the same extent of land. The calculations which justify this report, are said to have been published, and submitted to the closest examination.

M. Pietet, in the course of his work observes, that much remains to be done in

England ere the state of agriculture can be deemed perfect: we agree with him in this opinion. We believe, too, that every year makes some progress towards that desirable state; notwithstanding which exertions, there will be abundant opportunities for those who come after, to improve on our labours.

SAXON CHRONICLE.

Specimen of the Saxon Language, being a Description of Britain, from the Saxon Chronicle, with a Translation as nearly literal as the different Idioms of the two Languages will admit.

This work was a Record kept by the Monastery of Peterborough, of the principal events of each year as they occurred. Those which took place before the year 664, in which the monastery was founded, were extracted from earlier writers, and do not enable us to judge of the progressive improvements, or variations, in the language.

Brittene igland is ehta hund miles lang and two hund brad. And her sind on this igland fif getheode, Englisc and Britisc and Wisc and Seyttisc and Pyhtisc and Boecleden. Erst weron bugend thises landes Brittes, tha coman of Armenia and gesetan suthe wearde Bryttene ærost. Tha gelamp hit that Pyhtas coman suthan of Scythian mid langum scipum na manegum and tha coman ærost on north Ybernian up, and thaer bædo Scottas that hi ther moston wunian. Ac hi noldan heoma lyfan forthan hi cwædon tha Scottas we cow magon theah-hwathere ræd gelæron. We witan oððer eglanð her be easton, ther ge magon eardian gif ge willað, and gif hwa cow wiðstent we cow fultumiath that ge hit magan gegangan. Tha ferdon tha Pyhtas and geferdon this land northanweard; and suðenweard it hefdon Britas swa we ær cwædon.

Translation.

The British island is eight hundred miles long, and three hundred broad; and there are on this island five nations, English, British or Welch, Scottish, Pictish and Roman. The first inhabitants of this land were the British; they came from Armenia, and settled in the southern part of Britain first. Then happened it that the Picts came from the south part of Scythia with long ships not many, and they came first to the north of Ireland, and there asked the Scots that they might abide there. But they were unwilling to give them leave, so forthwith answered the Scots we are only able to assist you with advice; we know another island that is east, there you may inhabit if you are willing, and if they withstand you, we will assist you that you may drive them away. Then departed the Picts and entered this land northward, and southward the British had it as we before said.

WAGES OF LABOUR,

AS FIXED BY THE MAGISTRATES AND JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR THE COUNTY OF CHESTER, MET AT CHESTER IN APRIL, 1597.

[From Sir F. Eden's *State of the Poor*.]

	Wages by the Year with meat & drink.	Wages by the Year without meat & drink.	Wages by the Day with meat & drink.
	L. s. d.	L. s. d.	s. d.
A smith	1 11 8	5 0 0	0 2
A wheel-wright	2 0 0	5 10 0	0 2½
A plough-wright	1 10 0	5 0 0	0 2
A master carpenter	2 13 4	5 13 4	0 4
A servant carpenter	1 0 0	3 10 0	0 1
A joiner	1 10 0	4 0 0	0 2
A rough mason	1 6 8	5 0 0	0 2
A plasterer	1 0 0	5 0 0	0 2
A sawyer	1 8 0	4 10 0	0 2
A lime-maker	1 3 0	4 6 8	0 2
A bricklayer	1 0 0	4 0 0	0 2½
A brickman	1 6 0	4 10 0	0 2
A tyler	1 5 0	3 13 4	0 2
A slater	1 6 0	4 0 0	0 2½
A mill-wright	1 3 4	5 10 0	0 3
A tile maker	1 10 0	4 0 0	0 2
A linen-weaver	1 0 0	4 0 0	0 1
A turner	0 16 0	3 0 0	0 1
A woollen-weaver	1 8 0	3 12 8	0 1
A miller	1 10 0	4 0 0	0 2
A fuller	1 6 0	3 13 4	0 1½
A walker	1 3 4	4 0 0	0 1½
A thatcher	1 0 0	4 0 0	0 1
A shingler	1 10 0	4 0 0	0 2
A sheerman	1 0 0	3 13 4	0 1½
A dyer	1 6 8	3 13 4	0 1½
An hosier	1 3 0	3 10 0	0 1
A shoemaker	1 10 0	4 0 0	0 2
A tanner	1 6 0	4 0 0	0 1
A pewterer	1 0 0	3 13 4	0 2½
A baker	0 16 0	3 10 0	0 1
A brewer	1 0 0	3 10 0	0 1½
G'lovers	1 6 8	3 16 0	0 1
Cutlers	1 7 0	4 10 0	0 1½
Sadlers	1 5 0	4 0 0	0 1½
Spurriers	1 5 0	4 0 0	0 1½
Capps	1 0 0	3 10 0	0 2
Hat-makers	1 10 0	4 10 0	0 2
Bowyers	1 8 0	4 0 0	0 2
Fletchers	1 0 0	3 10 0	0 2
Arrow-head-makers	0 15 0	3 10 0	0 1
Butchers	1 6 8	3 10 0	0 1
Cooks	1 0 0	3 5 0	0 1
Bailiffs of Husbandry	2 0 0	4 0 0	0 3
Mowers of grass	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 4
Taskers	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 4
Reapers	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 2
Mowers of corn	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 4
Best servants	1 0 0	3 10 0	0 0
Second sort	0 10 0	2 10 0	0 0
Third sort	0 8 0	1 16 0	0 0

In the original MS. (Harl. Brit. Mus. No. 2091) the column that contains the wages by the day *without victuals* is torn off. In the preamble we are informed that the meeting was held, and these prices of labour settled,

on account "of the dearth and scarcity of things at this present tyme."—The prices in Windsor market then were: wheat £3 9s. 6d the quarter, and malt £2 6s. 4d. the quarter, according to the audit books of Eton College. Beef sold at 1s. 6d. the stone of 8lb.; Dutch cheese at 3½d. per lb.; Suffolk cheese at 2½d. per lb.; barley for poultry at 10d. per peck; a bushel of oatmeal at 5s. 8d.; best beer, in October, at 5s. 4d. per barrel; small beer at 2s. per barrel; and in December, best at 6s. small at 4s. 4d.

OBSERVANDA INTERNA.

Population.—In the year 1377 the population of England was 2,092,987 souls; in 1483, 4,686,000; in 1683, 6,500,000; in 1786, and at the last enumeration by order of Parliament, about 8,000,000.

Church Revenues, &c.—It appears that the revenue to the episcopal clergy amounts to £120,000 per annum; deans and chapters (about 1700 persons) to £140,000; universities to £180,000; inferior clergy to £1,350,000 per annum. The number of the established clergy is about 18,000, and, with their families and dependants, probably make up a hundred thousand persons: which, computing the population of the kingdom at eight millions, is about an eightieth part of the people.

Preserving Grapes.—The following is a new method of preserving grapes.—Take a cask, or barrel, inaccessible to the external air, and put it into a layer of bran dried in an oven, or of ashes well dried or sifted. Upon this place a layer of bunches of grapes well cleaned, and gathered it the afternoon of a dry day, before they are perfectly ripe. Proceed thus with alternate layers of bran and grapes, till the barrel is full, taking care that the grapes do not touch each other, and to let the last layer be of bran; then close the barrel, so that the air may not be able to penetrate, which is an essential point. Grapes, thus packed, will keep nine or twelve months. To restore them to their freshness, cut the end of each bunch and put that of white grapes into white wine, and that of black grapes into red wine, as you would put flowers into the water to receive or keep them fresh.

Extraordinary Arrival.—A letter from Portsmouth contains the following paragraph: "An extraordinary arrival came here in the Frederickstein, from the Mediterranean; no meaner person than Mahomed Mozen Khan, an Indian prince, who being driven from his dominions by a powerful adversary, travelled overland to the Emperor of Morocco, and came to England in the above-named frigate."

Tar-making in Scotland.—The London Company, who have the Duke of Gordon's forests on lease, have determined to try the experiment of tar-making in the extensive forests of the Spey. Three Dances passed through Bervie, on their way to the forests, about six or eight weeks ago, for the purpose of beginning the manufacture, and instructing the inhabitants in it.

Aqueduct of cast iron.—An aqueduct of cast iron, supported by three pillars of freestone, is about to be erected near Stoney Stratford. The middle pillar is 34 feet high, on a base of 26 feet long, by 8 wide. The aqueduct will be 100 feet long, and 8 feet wide. Barges of 90 tons will be able to pass it.

Small Farms.—A worthy nobleman in Wiltshire, the leases of whose farms have lately dropt, has divided those farms, some into two, and some into three; a noble example, which we hope and trust will ere long be followed by all those possessing landed property in the kingdom. The principles of this nobleman may be said to be truly patriotic, and for this deed alone he deserves well of his country.

Supply of Fish.—Shrewsbury. It is with great pleasure we find that a number of public-spirited gentlemen have come to a resolution to furnish Shrewsbury and its neighbourhood with a regular supply of fish, principally soles, from Carnarvon Bay, at a moderate price, viz. 1s. per pound, in opposition to the exorbitant demands which the inhabitants have suffered for years past. There has been already a succession of arrivals of this delicious fish, and we understand that arrangements are forming by which they will be conveyed from the shore to this town in twenty-four hours.

New Free Church.—Christ's Church, Needwood. On the 15th of August last a new church was consecrated in Needwood Forest, in the county of Stafford. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Gisborne, to a very numerous audience. When the act of parliament passed for the inclosure of this forest, containing upwards of 9400 acres, belonging to his Majesty, it soon became evident that the population would increase so rapidly, as to require some new arrangement with respect to the means of public worship and religious instruction; and the late Isaac Hawkins, Esq. of Burton-upon-Trent, having bequeathed to his executors (Isaac Hawkins Browne, Esq. and the Rev. Thomas Gisborne) a large sum of money for pious and charitable uses, they made a proposal, that, if the King would grant in perpetuity an adequate portion of the forest land for the site of a church and the support of its minister, they would engage that a church and a parsonage-house should be erected upon it. The proposal met with the royal approbation; and in 1805 an act of parliament was obtained, enabling his Majesty to make the necessary allotment. The patronage was vested in the Crown. And, for the permanent accommodation of the poor, it was enacted, that not less than one half of the church should ever remain in open and unappropriated sittings. From the late Earl of Liverpool, the Earl of Chichester, the Earl of Buckinghamshire, Lord Mulgrave, the Earl of Harrowby, the Earl of Derby, and Mr. Perceval, who have successively filled the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, it is stated that uniform assistance in forwarding the measure has been obtained. And it ought to be recorded to the honour of his Majesty, that the act having left him an option of granting for the endowment any quantity of land between 105 and 150 acres, he was pleased most liberally to direct, that the largest number should be assigned. The executors of Mr. Hawkins have

furnished, towards the expence of the act and the buildings, 3000l.; to which 656l. have been added by individual subscription.

Surprising Instance of Abstinence.—"It has been mentioned in the different newspapers, some months ago, that Mrs. Ann Moore, of the village of Tutbury, five miles from Burton-upon-Trent, in the county of Stafford, had lived without meat, drink, or any support whatever, for some time; we have it now in our power to state positive facts, given us from a correspondent, who has within these few days paid a visit to Tutbury, and spoke with the said Ann Moore, who informed him she had lived two years and a half without eating, and one year the 15th of September last, without drinking any thing, not even a glass of cold spring water. To satisfy the faculty and her village neighbours, she submitted herself to be removed from her humble cottage, to Mr. Jackson's house in that village, and there watched alternately, by two persons at a time, four hours each, for 16 days and nights together, and during that time she had not so much support as a glass of water, nor did she ask for any thing; thus far convincing the faculty she did live (or rather say exist) without any thing, except taking a large quantity of Scotch snuff (*nasally*). She was carried back to her humble cot again, and there resides. She was born at a village, in Derbyshire, and has been in stature a full-sized woman, was married to a person of the name of Moore, and has had four children. Her legs and thighs are doubled under her. She has not had any passage through her for a long time. She can sit up straight in bed, and work a little at her needle; she reads her bible and prayer-book, with the assistance of glasses; she sleeps at night from two to four hours at a time, and has the delicate appearance of a lying-in woman, has a small tint of red just in the centre of each of her cheeks; her voice is low and rather faint, but accurately distinct; she is now 48 years of age. But what is most astonishing to the faculty and the world at large that have seen and heard of her, that she has to this hour her five senses perfect. Her own opinion is she cannot long continue. Any person that calls has free access to converse with her. Her own daughter and another woman attend on her. She is visited by many from various parts of the kingdom." *Birmingham Chronicle*.—[Has any medical gentleman examined, and reported on this subject for public information?

Hint to those who use Fowling-Pieces.—The frequent bursting of guns by which many a finger, and sometimes a hand, is shattered, may render the following information useful to those who are in the habit of using fowling-pieces. The smallest portion of sand or sugar, has the effect of bursting a barrel; therefore great care should be taken not to use paper in loading, in which sugar or sand has recently been introduced.

Curious Calculation.—A human being is supposed to consume annually the produce of rather more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land, namely, half an acre for bread, $\frac{1}{2}$ of ditto for beer, cider, &c. 1-50th ditto for vegetables, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ditto animal food; 39 stone of which each person, on an average population of ten millions, is computed to devour. It is estimated that there are in England and Wales 1,759,000 horses for labour and pleasure, and

that they, with colts, &c. require for their support 7,500,000 acres of land. In the county of Middlesex the number of taxed pleasure horses in 1797, was 18,266; for agriculture, &c. 12,709—total 30,975. The cultivated lands in England and Wales, allowing 3,603,000 acres for hedges, copses, wood, water, and roads, is computed as 39,027,000, of which about 14,000,000 are supposed to be arable: namely, 3,850,000 under wheat; 1,050,000 barley and rye; 3,500,000 oats and beans; 1,400,000 clover, rye-grass, &c. a like quantity under turnips and other roots; and 2,800,000 lost annually by the generally injurious system of fallow. The commons and waste lands are stated at 7,889,000 acres, making the whole superficies of the kingdom 46,916,000 acres. The metropolis consumes butchers meat to the amount of seven millions sterling annually. A calf fed for the London market is stated to consume as much milk as would make a hundred weight of cheese. The number of sheep in England and Wales, according to the evidence given on passing the wool bill, exceeds forty millions; of which, including three millions of lambs, about fifteen millions are killed annually. The total annual produce of 46,916,000 acres is estimated at 126,720,000*l.* which costs in labour, artificers, and horse-keep, 56,720,000*l.* leaving an annual nett increase in value on the produce of the land to the amount of 70 millions sterling; of which the landlord is supposed to receive 42 parts, taxes and tithes 13, and the farmers 15. This latter allotment we presume to have been made at a period infinitely less productive to the farmer than the present.

Croydon Canal.—On Monday, Oct. 23, the navigation of this canal, from the Thames to the town of Croydon, was opened. The proprietors met at Sydenham (about 5 miles from Croydon), and there embarked, in one of the Company's barges, handsomely decorated with flags, &c. At this barge's moving forward, an excellent band played "God save the King," and a salute of 21 guns was fired. This barge was followed by a great many others, loaded with coal, stone, corn, &c. &c. all hoisting flags and streamers. After passing a wharf, erected at Penge Common by John Scott, Esq. by means of which the towns of Beckenham, Bromley, and a considerable part of Kent are accommodated with coal, manure, and merchandize, at a greatly reduced rate of carriage, the gay fleet of barges entered Penge Forest. The canal passes through this forest in a part of it so elevated, that it affords the most extensive prospects, comprehending Beckenham, several scattered villages and seats, Shooter's-hill, Addington-hills, Banstead Downs, and numerous other picturesque objects in the counties of Kent and Surrey; these rich prospects breaking in, from time to time, by openings among the trees. In gliding through the deepest recesses of the forest, nothing met the eye but the elegant windings of the clear and still canal; its borders adorned by a profusion of trees, of which the beauty was heightened by the tint of autumn. The inhabitants of Croydon met the procession some miles from their town, and hailed it with loud and repeated cheers. The bason at Croydon was surrounded by many thousands of persons. When the proprietors' barge entered the bason,

the band played "God save the King" the guns fired, the bells of the churches were rung; and this immense concourse hailed, by universal shouts, the dawn of their commerce and prosperity.—The proprietors walked to the Greyhound Inn, accompanied by music, and preceded by the workmen, who marched in order, with their tools on their shoulders; a very splendid dinner was provided in the Assembly-room at the Greyhound, Edward Smith, Esq. presided. His Majesty's health was drank: also those of the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Gwydir, the Chairman, and others: many songs, &c. were sung suitable to the occasion.—It having been stated to the meeting that circumstances are now favourable for the extension of the Croydon canal to Portsmouth; and the prodigious advantages of such a measure, both as affecting public commerce and the commercial and agricultural improvements of the counties through which it will pass, being universally acknowledged, the following toast was drunk accompanied by the most lively acclamations:—"The Union of the River Thames and the English Channel through the Croydon Canal."—After several other appropriate and patriotic toasts, the day's entertainment concluded with the greatest harmony and satisfaction; and it is a most agreeable circumstance to add, that notwithstanding the vast concourse of people crowding the banks, the bridges, tops of warehouses, and other dangerous situations, the enjoyment of the day was uninterrupted by any misfortune.

Tyrolean Deputies.—Two deputies have arrived in this country from Hoffer, the general of the Tyrolean patriots, for the purpose of soliciting pecuniary assistance from our government. They came by the way of Gottenburgh. These gentlemen report very favourably of the resources of the country, and of the disposition of its inhabitants to sustain the arduous struggle in which they are engaged; they declare that the French and confederate armies lost upwards of 48,000 men during the month of September, in their unsuccessful conflicts with the Tyrolese.—Andrew Hoffer, the chief of the Tyrolese, gives every facility to the continuance of the intercourse between Italy and Germany. Several Italian silk-dealers, lately arrived at Munich, having travelled with their valuable merchandize unmolested, in consequence of Hoffer's passports. He told them, that if the Bavarians suffered them to exchange their commodities for grain, he should be glad; but if they did not, neither he, nor his brave adherents, should be reduced to want.—The two Tyroleans who have been deputed by their gallant countryman to solicit assistance from our government, appeared on the Exchange. They are both extremely well-looking men, and were dressed in the uniform of the Tyrolean patriots. They afterwards ascended to the subscription-room at Lloyd's, where they were received with repeated cheers. They were among the foreign deputies invited to the Lord Mayor's dinner at Guildhall, on his entrance into office, November 9.

For an account of the Tyrol, and its inhabitants, vide, in a future page, our *OBSERVANDA INTERNA*, article *TYROL*, and for the manner of their defending their country, vide p. 528.

Address of the Corporation of the City of London to his Majesty, presented Dec. 20, 1809.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the humble, loyal, and dutiful Address and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.—

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We your Majesty's most faithful, loyal, and dutiful subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, most humbly approach your Majesty's sacred person, in the perfect assurance that your Majesty will graciously condescend to receive the suggestions of your faithful and loyal citizens, on subjects which seriously and deeply affect their interests, in common with the rest of your Majesty's people.—We have witnessed with deep regret the disastrous failure of the late expedition, as the magnitude of its equipment had raised the just hopes and expectations of the country to some permanent benefit.—And we cannot avoid expressing to your Majesty the sorrow and indignation with which we are affected by the unhappy dissensions that have prevailed among your Majesty's ministers, and our fears that such dissensions may prove eminently prejudicial to the best interests of the nation.—Your Majesty's faithful citizens, actuated by loyal attachment to your sacred person and illustrious house, and solicitous for the honour of your Majesty's arms, and the dignity and solidity of your Majesty's councils, are deeply impressed with the necessity of an early and strict inquiry into the causes of the failure of the late expedition, therefore pray your Majesty will direct inquiry to be forthwith instituted, in order to ascertain the causes which have occasioned it.—By order of the Court,

HENRY WOODTHORP.

His Majesty's Answer.

I thank you for your expressions of duty and attachment to me and to my family.—The recent expedition to the Scheldt was directed to several objects of great importance to the interests of my allies, and to the security of my dominions.—I regret that of these objects a part only has been accomplished.—I have not judged it to be necessary to direct any military inquiry into the conduct of my commanders by sea or land, in this conjoint service.—It will be for my Parliament, in their wisdom, to ask for such information, or to take such measures upon this subject as they shall judge to be most conducive to the public good.

They were all received very graciously, and had the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand.—

Vol. VII. [Lit. Pan. Jan. 1810]

N.B. This address was finally adopted, after two courts called for its reconsideration, by the City of London, instead of another Address, which had been agreed to.

Junction of the Thames and the Medway.

—About ten years ago, a junction of the rivers Thames and Medway, by a canal from Gravesend to Rochester, was projected, but from various causes this useful scheme was afterwards nearly abandoned. About eighteen months since, a spirited individual raised it again into action, and, with the assistance of some who had always seen its value, recommenced this promising work. We have now the satisfaction to state, that lately, at Gravesend, the first stone was laid of the entrance lock to the basin, or dock, of the canal, which will closely unite the above important rivers. This canal, of less than seven miles in length, will save a long and often dangerous voyage round the Nore, of nearly fifty miles; conveying timber, hops, corn, and the other produce of the county of Kent (whose motto is "*Invicta*"), and, indeed, merchandize of every description, to and from the London market, in a short and certain time. The chairman and committee performed the ceremony of laying the stone, at two o'clock, amidst the ringing of bells, and the acclamations of a large concourse of spectators. On the stone was engraved:

"This first stone of the entrance lock to the canal uniting the rivers Thames and Medway, was laid on the 27th day of November, 1809, by Joseph Stonard, Esq. Chairman, and the Committee.—Ralph Walker, Engineer."

The current coins of the realm, gold, silver, and copper, together with the medals commemorating the grand national jubilee of the 25th October, 1809, on our gracious Sovereign George the Third entering the 50th year of his glorious reign, were deposited in a glass vase placed in the stone.—To detail the numerous advantages which the nation, and more particularly the counties within its immediate sphere, will derive from this canal, would far exceed our limits. The royal dock-yards of Chatham, Woolwich, Deptford, &c. will have an easy and safe communication with each other; and we hope in due course to record the completion of a work, which we consider conducive in its degree to the prosperity of a kingdom, so justly famed for its internal and external commerce.

Subterraneous Oak and Yew Trees.—In the progress of excavating the basin in the Medway canal, which is to connect the Thames and the Medway, a stratum of peat has been discovered, in which large trees are found, apparently oak and yew; some standing, others lying horizontally, and many in all directions.

Scarcity of Coin.—For some time past, various persons have made it their business to attend all the markets in London and its environs, to purchase guineas, half-guineas, and seven shilling pieces, which, no doubt, are sent to a foreign market in neutral ships. This trade is attended by very great profits. This sort of traffic is said to be carried on to a very great extent at Flushing; and, should it continue long, the scarcity of gold coinage will be severely felt.—Lately, 13,000*l.* in silver, with 3000*l.* in gold, were seized in the river, intended for exportation. The money was carried to the Bank.

Navy List.—The naval monthly list up to Dec. 1, contains the following statement of our force employed on active service:—108 sail of the line, 28 frigates and forty-fours, 156 frigates, 245 sloops, 16 bombs and fire-ships, 98 brigs, 339 cutters, 49 schooners, and 6 luggers.—Total, 723. The grand total, comprising the guard, store, prison and hospital ships, as well as those building and in ordinary, amounts to 252 sail of the line, 35 frigates and forty-fours, 253 frigates, 314 sloops, 25 bombs and fire-ships, 105 brigs, 8 gun-vessels, 40 cutters, 53 schooners, 6 luggers, 10 yachts, 25 tenders—1131.

Extent of Norfolk Farms.—Some idea of the extent of Norfolk farms may be formed, when it is known that one occupier, in the Western district, last year expended more than 1100*l.* for only one sort of manure (brought many miles), notwithstanding the immense quantity made at home, and the great number of sheep annually folded on the grounds. On another farm, 48 acres are consumed in paths and fences across the lands.

Chrystal.—A Cairngorum stone, weighing 308 ounces, of one entire chrystal, was lately found in the Highlands of Scotland, and is now in the possession of a lapidary in Edinburgh.

Herring Fishery.—Forty boats employed in the herring fishery, on the Norfolk coast, between the 25th of September and 1st of November last, caught upwards of *fourteen millions* of fish, which sold to the merchants for between 16 and 17,000*l.*, and gave to each person employed in the fishery, independent of the expenses of the vessel, about 50*l.*—The herring fishery at Yarmouth has been remarkably productive, a greater quantity having been caught than ever was known. The boats have come in repeatedly with *twenty lasts*, and, in some instances, as many as *twenty-three or twenty-four lasts* have been brought in at a time. A last of herrings is 10,000.

Amazing Oak.—An oak-tree, of the uncommon admeasurement of 25 tons, or 100 solid feet, is now standing in Newbury Park,

—it is supposed to be worth upwards of 250 guineas.

Jubilee Non-Observance !!!—The *Essex Herald*, in giving an account of the jubilee as observed in that county, remarks as follows:—“Every sect and society vied with each other in cheering the hearts of their poor neighbours, *except in one solitary instance, viz. at HARLOW*, in which a number of very opulent dissenters reside, all of whom refused subscribing to entertain their poor.”

Foreign Plants.—It may not be improper to inform the curious in seeds, roots, &c. that all seeds and roots of foreign plants, and other objects of Natural History, may be imported, or regularly entered and landed at the Customs-House, and the duties paid on them; no prohibition, by law, existing on the above articles.

Dangerous State of the Public Roads near London.—The dark nights which have lately prevailed have been productive, as might be expected, of many serious accidents upon those roads about the metropolis which to the disgrace of the police, are yet without lights. Upon the Croydon-road, which is now one of the greatest thoroughfares out of London, and upon which a gentleman met his death not long ago, there is not a public road lamp between Kennington turnpike and Streatham. The darkness, during a fog, lately, was so considerable, that travellers coming that way from Brighton and other places, called, without ceremony, at private houses to borrow candles and lanterns; it was impossible for the drivers otherwise to proceed. One gentleman, on the Streatham-road, with great humanity, ordered all his servants and labourers to station themselves along the road with lights till the moon got up. Surely it is within the province of the Grand Jury of the county to remedy such a nightly nuisance, as the unprotected state of such a road.—However, some alteration may be expected ere long, perhaps, in the ensuing session of parliament. Our readers are requested to turn to *Panorama*, Vol. VII. p. 407 and 418, for the notice officially taken of this subject by Mr. Hasker of the General Post-Office, and Mr. Ward, the latter of whom remarks, “I think the roads for 15 miles about London ought to be under the management of persons of abilities, and the more immediate care of government.”

IRELAND.

Catholic Petition.—Dublin, Nov. 16.—The last reading of the Catholic Petition occasioned some debate, and several alterations and amendments were proposed. A motion, however, for making an amendment to the petition, being negatived, it was resolved that it should stand in its present form.—The

transmission of the petition is committed to the Earl of Fingal.—The petition is to be presented to the House of Lords by Lord Grenville, and to the House of Commons by Mr. Grattan.—A Committee of eleven were chosen, to prepare a digest of the grievances affecting the Catholic Body; after which the meeting adjourned.

Catholics in Dublin.—An account is now taking in Dublin, by order of the archbishop, of every Protestant family, and also of every Roman Catholic in their employment, distinguishing the respective ages of each.

Stamp Duty.—The executors of the late Archbishop of Dublin lately paid into the Stamp-office in that city, 1,733l. 6s. 8d. for duty on the will of his Grace. He is said to have died worth nearly 400,000l. His property descends to his son, Earl Normanton.

Theatrical Collections for Charities.—The managers of the private theatre in Kilkenny, have paid to the several charitable institutions in that town no less a sum than 1678l. 11s. 6d. being the produce of their late performances.

Carolan, the Irish Bard.—The first commemoration of this celebrated bard took place lately at the private theatre, in Dublin. Several admirable pieces of Irish music were played and sung on the occasion.

OBSERVANDA EXTERNA.

EUROPE, AFRICA, ASIA, AND AMERICA.

Steppes, or Deserts: natural and moral.—M. Humboldt, the celebrated traveller, has lately published interesting considerations, on what might be thought, without a pun, the most barren of subjects; but under the treatment of a masterly hand, and a mind of extensive research and combination, nothing is, properly speaking, barren. His object is to consider the wastes, or deserts, which are found in every quarter of the globe; and as some of these are known by the name of *steppes*, he applies this name generally.

The *steppes* of Europe extend from the point of Jutland to the mouth of the river Scheldt; these are but small, compared with those of the other parts of the world; and these are covered with one species of plants, the heaths, the vigorous vegetation of which chokes all other herbage.

The *steppes* of the interior of Africa, offer a most surprising spectacle. They are so many oceans of sand, which separate fertile regions, or surround them entirely, and render them so many islands. Their whole extent comprises a space nearly three times the dimensions of the Mediterranean sea. Small troops of ostriches and gazelles, with pairs of thirsty lions and panthers, roam throughout these vast wilds, as want or fancy leads them. Those tribes of mankind which in-

habit the borders of these deserts, do not hazard the passing of them, except at certain periods of the year; or rather of the seasons.

The *steppes* of Asia occupy the center of that immense continent, and overspread the mountains which, in prodigious masses, rear their lofty heads to the clouds. These are the highest deserts on the globe: they are also the most extensive; for we trace them nearly two thousand leagues. Yet these mountains, these wastes, have their intervals, and from these seclusions have issued those hordes of Tartars, Mongols, and other tribes, whose irruptions have had prodigious influence on the manners, the enjoyments, and even the destiny of the human species.

The *steppes* of the two Americas, although extensive, are smaller than those of Asia and Africa. The immense lakes which these countries contain, leave little room for deserts. Perhaps, too, the presence of such great bodies of water is inconsistent with the existence of *steppes*, which usually are reduced to barrenness by the absence of water. If the waters of America were placed in the deserts of Africa, would those sands longer continue barren? We suppose not:—but, if any from this disposition of things take occasion to impugn the kindness of Providence, let them well consider whether something similar has not its seat in themselves, and whether it be not a previous duty to reclaim their personal *steppes* to moral cultivation.

We are not fond of the melancholy of philosophy: it is seldom beneficial; it is sometimes morbid; yet the speculations of M. Humboldt do certainly support the exclamatory language of the complaining poet:

A part how small of this terraqueous globe
Is tenanted by Man!—the rest a waste,
Rocks, deserts, frozen seas, and burning sands:
Wild haunts of monsters, poisons, stings and death.

Such is Earth's melancholy Map! but far
More sad! This Earth is a true Map of Man.

AFRICA.

Slaves released.—Sierra Leone. In August last, the brig letter of marque Minerva of London, detained the Swedish schooner Penel, at sea with a cargo of slaves on board; and brought her into this colony. Of the cargo eighteen slaves had been purchased from Mr. Samuel Samo, a resident in the Rio Pongas; these *eighteen* slaves, as having been purchased by a neutral contrary to the Abolition Act, and unlawfully “exported, transported, carried, or conveyed, sent, or embarked,” and being found on board a neutral vessel out at sea, were adjudged to be condemned to the use of his Majesty. But the vessel with the remainder of the cargo was restored to the Swedish captain.

This decision did not satisfy all present, and a gentleman, standing up in the court, declared himself attorney for the remainder of the slaves, for whom he prayed deliverance, stating that they were unjustly detained. The judge finding that these slaves were not, and never had been, natives or inhabitants of this colony, and therefore were absolutely *aliens*, refused to interfere; as having no power over the actions of the subjects of other countries.

It is said, that the gentleman who acted as attorney for these slaves, wished that they should make their *personal* appearance in court: also that he went on board the vessel, and urged them to make an attempt to get on shore. This gave great offence to the governor, who has written a letter of apology to the Swardish governor of the Island of Banholmew, whither the vessel was bound.

AMERICA, NORTH.

Expedition of Discovery.—A large body of warriors, hunters, and trappers, all well armed and equipped, took their departure about three months ago from Louisville, in America, on a three-year expedition, to join the Missouri Company, who design to establish themselves not only on the River Columbia, but to enlarge the sphere of their commerce to the East Indies.

French Prince among the Republicans.—Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, Nov. 10th:—"The Emperor Napoleon has created Mrs. Jerome Patterson, of Baltimore, a Duchess of the House of Napoleon, with a suitable establishment of 40,000 crowns per annum; her son, a Prince of the French Empire; Colonel Toussard, late of the American Revolutionary Army, is appointed Governor of the young Prince, with the rank of General and a splendid salary. He has left Philadelphia for Baltimore, to take upon himself the duties of his appointment. Baltimore is to be the imperial and royal residence for the present."

This is a master stroke of policy in the Corsican: if the Americans do not see through it, and act with spirit,—that they will have reason to repent their supineness, *time will shew*.

AMERICA, SOUTH.

Electrical Eels.—M. Humboldt, in his recent travels, affirms that the marshy streams of Bera and Rastro, in South America, are full of electrical eels, whose slimy body, dashed with yellow spots, communicate in every direction, and spontaneously, a violent shock. These *gymnoti* are five or six feet long, and when they suitably direct the action of their organs, armed with an apparatus of multiplied nerves, they are able to kill the most robust animals. All fishes shun the approach of this formidable eel. It even sur-

prises men, who, standing on the steep bank, are fishing with a hook; the wetted line conveying the fatal commotion. In this instance, the electrical fire is disengaged from the very bottom of the waters.

AUSTRIA.

Ramparts Destroyed.—Vienna. The demolition of the ramparts around this city is carried on briskly. This will prove a great benefit to the city, which has hitherto been bounded by them: it will be improved by the more free and active circulation of air. The suburbs, hitherto shut out from the city, will now become parts of it, especially if the streets be paved. The ramparts will be planned and become public walks. The price of house-rent in the suburbs has already experienced a rise; and the citizens in general, consider this proceeding as tending to the embellishment of their city. The operation of blowing up these works by gunpowder causes a variety of damages. The windows and other glasses in the houses within the range of the shock occasioned by the explosions, are all broken. Many houses are shaken considerably: and some persons have lost their lives.

Sketch of the Changes produced by the Peace of Vienna. Abstracted from the French.—Previous to the war, the population of the Austrian dominions, was estimated at 22,600,000. New Galicia when it became an Austrian province was supposed to contain 1,100,000 persons: in 1803 it reckoned 1,281,057. The country transferred to the duchy of Warsaw, may be taken at 1,500,000 persons: it also includes the salt mines of Wieliczka, mines of silver, iron, and lead, with several corn countries; and the ancient city of Cracow, formerly possessing 80,000 inhabitants; now reduced to 24,000. Austrian Poland had by the last official enumeration 4,600,000 inhabitants: this treaty reduces them to 3,000,000.—The part of higher Austria ceded to the Confederation of the Rhine, contains from 210 to 220,000 people; the country of Saltzburgh, and Berchtholdsgaden, ceded also, comprise 214,000 inhabitants. Upper Carinthia, or the circle of Villach, a country which possesses mines of lead, copper, iron, calamine, and marble, had lately 117,815 inhabitants. In Carniola are the famous quicksilver mines of Idria, the product of which is necessary for refining the ores of Mexico and Peru; Spain was allowed by treaty with Austria, to export yearly, *two thousand cwt.* of quicksilver. Carniola reckons 433,000 inhabitants, including Istria. Frioul with Montefalcone may have 60,000. The territory of Trieste 33,000. In Croatia is ceded about 450,000. The Illyrian provinces possess a population of about 1,100,000. The whole population ceded by the treaty of Vienna, is estimated at 2,420,000 subjects.

Nevertheless, the population still remaining under the Austrian government is at least 19,000,000 of persons; and it is likely that this number will be increased by the addition of those who will endeavour to relieve themselves from the impositions they must expect, by withdrawing from the places where they are at present, settled. For these changes a time is allowed, six years; till the expiration of which all estimates formed on the subject, are little other than conjectures.

Abstract of the Definitive Treaty between Austria and France.—It contains 18 articles; the following are the chief stipulations:—

The cessions of Austria divide themselves principally into three parts: those to the sovereigns of the Rhenish League, generally; those to Buonaparte; and those to the King of Saxony, individually.

Among the first of these the Emperor of Austria resigns Saltzburg, and a portion of Austria, extending on the Danube from Passau to the vicinity of Lintz.

To the second, Fiume and Trieste, and, in general the whole of the country south of the Save, till that river enters Bosnia.

To the last, a few villages in Bohemia, and (to be united to the Duchy of Warsaw) the whole of Western Galicia, extending from the frontiers of Silesia to the Bog, together with Cracow, and a district round it in Eastern Galicia.

To these is added a barbarous cession to Russia, in the Eastern part of Galicia, of so much territory as contains *four hundred thousand souls*.

It cannot be denied that the extent of the Austrian dominions will be materially circumscribed by this treaty; yet still it leaves her, contrary to the denunciations of her enemy, an independent and formidable power. The Tyrol is given up, with a provision that Buonaparte shall procure a "complete and full pardon" for her brave inhabitants!—On the whole, the enemies of Austria are disappointed in their anticipation of her downfall. Francis II. is acknowledged to be, as before, Emperor, King of Hungary and Bohemia, in direct retraction of the language of Buonaparte, who had spoken of him merely as a Prince of the House of Lorraine, and in contradiction to the famous proclamation, in which the Corsican invited the Hungarians to *chuse a King*, and to inform him of their choice.

FRANCE.

Buonaparte's Speech to his Senate, Dec. 3.

The Emperor being seated, the Members of the Legislative Body newly elect took the oaths; after which the Emperor made the following speech:

"Gentlemen Deputies of Departments to the Legislative Body.—Since your last Session, I have reduced Arragon and Castile to

submission, and driven from Madrid the falacious Government formed by England. I was marching upon Cadiz and Lisbon, when I was under the necessity of treading back my steps, and of placing my eagles on the ramparts of Vienna. Three months have been the rise and termination of this fourth Punic war. Accustomed to the devotedness and courage of my armies, I must nevertheless, under these circumstances, acknowledge the particular proofs of affection which my soldiers of Germany have given me.

"The genius of France conducted the English army: it has terminated its projects in the pestilential marshes of Walcheren. In that important period I remained 430 leagues distant, certain of the new glory which my people would acquire, and of the grand character they would display. My hopes have not been deceived. I owe particular thanks to the Citizens of the departments of the Pas de Calais and the North. Frenchmen! every one that shall oppose you, shall be conquered and reduced to submission. Your grandeur shall be increased by the hatred of your enemies. You have the force and energy of the Hercules of the Ancients.

"I have united Tuscany to the Empire. The Tuscans were worthy of it by the mildness of their character; by the attachment their ancestors have always shewn us; and by the services they have rendered to European civilization.

"History pointed out to me the conduct I ought to pursue towards Rome. The Popes become Sovereigns of part of Italy, have constantly shewn themselves enemies of every preponderating power in the peninsula: they have employed their spiritual power to injure it. It was then demonstrated to me, that the spiritual influence exercised in my States by a foreign Sovereign was contrary to the independence of France, and to the dignity and safety of my throne. However, as I acknowledge the necessity of the spiritual influence of the descendants of the first of the pastors, I could not conciliate these grand interests, but by annulling the donative of the French Emperors my predecessors, and by uniting the Roman States to France.

"By the Treaty of Vienna, all the Kings and Sovereigns my Allies, who have given me so many proofs of the constancy of their friendship, have acquired and shall acquire a fresh increase of territory.

"The Illyrian provinces stretch the frontiers of my great Empire to the Save. Contiguous to the Empire of Constantinople, I shall find myself in a situation to watch over the first interests of my commerce in the Mediterranean, the Adriatic, and the Levant. I will protect the Porte, if the Porte withdraw herself from the fatal influence of England. I shall know how to punish her, if

she suffer herself to be governed by cunning and perfidious counsels.

"I have wished to give the Swiss Nation a new proof of my esteem, by annexing to my titles that of their Mediator, and thus putting an end to all the uneasiness endeavoured to be spread among that brave people.

"Holland, placed between England and France, is equally bruised by them. Yet she is the *debouché* of the principal arteries of my Empire. Changes will become necessary; the safety of my frontiers, and the well understood interests of the two countries, imperiously require them.

"Sweden has lost, by her alliance with England, after a disastrous war, the finest and most important of her provinces. Happy would it have been for that nation, if the wise prince that governs her now, had ascended the throne some years sooner! This example proves anew to kings that the alliance of England is the surest presage of ruin.

"My ally and friend, the Emperor of Russia, has united to his vast Empire, Finland, Moldavia, Wallachia, and a district of Galicia. I am not jealous of any thing that can produce good to that Empire. My sentiments for its illustrious Sovereign are in unison with my policy.

"When I shall shew myself beyond the Pyrenees, the frightened leopard will fly to the ocean, to avoid shame, defeat, and death. The triumph of my arms will be the triumph of the genius of good over that evil—of moderation, order, and morality over civil war, anarchy, and the bad passions. My friendship and protection will, I hope, restore tranquillity and happiness to the people of the Spains.

"Gentlemen Deputies of Departments to the Legislative Body, I have directed my Minister of the Interior to lay before you the history of the legislation, of the administration, and of the finances of the year just expired; you will see that all the ideas I had conceived for the amelioration of my people, have been followed with the greatest activity—that in Paris, as in the most distant parts of my empire, the war has not produced any delay in the public works. The Members of my Council of State will submit to you different projects of law, and especially the law upon the Finances; you will see in it their prosperous condition. I demand of my people no new sacrifice, though circumstances have obliged me to double my military means."

Blunders of French Journalists.—The German paper, the *Morgenblatt*, of Oct. 26, contains the following criticism on the journals of Paris:—

"The journalists of Paris from time to time, enrich the science of geography, with new towns and new rivers, which might in

vain be sought in Busching, or in the best of modern maps. One of them has lately created and rendered navigable a river, the *Axe* in Pomerania. The occasion of this creation, was an article in the *Hamburg Correspondent*, in which to explain the stagnation of commerce in that district, the writer observed, that "no goods were now carried either by water or by land:" the latter mode of conveyance he described by the German phrase *zufuhr auf der axe* "laden on the axle-tree." The French translator has rendered it, "conveyed by navigation on the *Axe*." In like manner the *Gazette de France* of Sept. 21, has placed on the Elbe a new city called *Schlephthan*. Reporting an article from Copenhagen, the gazette writer says, "that Capt Halling has so roughly handled the English vessels in a battle with them, that the gunboats were abandoned by their crews, who were forced to retire with a single brig to *Schlephthan*." The German phrase simply implies, that "in their retreat, they were obliged to tow off one of their brigs."

*. Whoever has occasion to compare the originals with the translations made from them in our English newspapers, will find many similar blunders. For these we can easily account, knowing the hurry in which such translations are made: whether the same excuse applies to the translators for the journals of the Great Nation, we know not: but we know that their representations of English articles are often incredibly incorrect: and very much beyond those above noticed.

Tobacco.—An experienced chemist at Paris has lately made several curious experiments on tobacco, which, if found to be correct, will occasion a great innovation on the trade and the manufacture of that vegetable. His results were, that the acrid principle of tobacco differs from that of all other vegetables, whose properties are known—that it can by an easy process be completely separated from the plant, either green or dried, and in a liquid state—and that the juice thus extracted may be combined with the dried leaves of any tree, and thus form tobacco.—The remains of the plant, after the acrid principle is thus separated, have neither smell nor taste.

Deficiency of Literary Publications.—Some notion of the present state of literature on the Continent, may be formed from the circumstance, that the monthly publication which appears at Paris, under the title of the *Journal of Foreign Literature*, is reduced from six half sheets per month to four: and the price, in the same proportion, from 21 to 14 fr. The *Journal of French Literature* had set the example of this diminution. The editors declare their intention of comprising in these works, notices of the more important books only; the fact is, that they have

found it difficult to fill their pages; and that they have noticed publications not only trivial but uninteresting, from the necessity of the case, *rebus sic stantibus*.

GERMANY.

Poesy Unexpected.—At Nuremberg lately, the special commission appointed to try those who were concerned in the insurrection which took place when the Austrians occupied that city, among others accused, had before them a shoemaker named Wolf, a member of the *Association of Improvisatori*, which has existed in Nuremberg from the 13th or 14th century: [the German name imports *repeaters of sentences*, or as we might say in English *those who cap verses*] Wolf was not wholly acquitted; but the commission thinking the imprisonment he had already suffered sufficient, dismissed him.—Wolf returned his thanks to the tribunal in a long speech consisting of *verses entirely unpremeditated*, to the surprise and amusement of his judges.

French Iniquity.—Two persons were executed at Bamberg, for having attempted a short time since, to assassinate the Duke of Abrantes, while passing through that city. The Duke had, it appears, violated the wife of the one, and seduced the sister of the other.

French Exactions.—Several of the most flourishing cities and towns in Germany have been reduced to ruin in consequence of the exactions of the military. Among the number is Passau (Bavaria) the most wealthy of whose inhabitants have been impoverished by having soldiers quartered on them; in August, they gave lodging and subsistence to 148,221 men, including officers.

HOLLAND.

State of the Country.—The Dutch Papers contain the Address of the Legislative Body to King Louis, Nov. 26th, (the day before he set out for Paris) with his answer.

The rumour of an exchange of dominions between Louis and Jerome, appears to have created some alarm. "The Legislative Body," says the President, "ardently wish, that it may please Providence to confirm in your Majesty's hands, to extreme old age, the reins of a government which is calculated to promise permanent happiness to this country. They are fully convinced, Sire, that, could the wishes of your heart be accomplished, your people would have constantly enjoyed all that prosperity which might be expected from their local situation." The President then enlarges on the disastrous circumstances which have involved Holland in the present war, contrary to her interest and her inclinations; and laments that in the present state of things, instead of diminishing the public burthens, it only remains for his Majesty, in proposing fresh taxes, to lay them on with as light a hand as possible. His Majesty replies—"If the public treasury has experienced some in-

mentary difficulties, every one must feel that it is the necessary consequence of the hardness of the times." He, however, assures the Legislative Body, that notwithstanding an increased expenditure of 3,000,000 florins in the war department, he has contrived by a temporary diversion of the appropriations for other services, to keep within the estimate for the year 1809. He refers them to a Report of the minister of the interior, for a detailed statement of the different branches of the public service, adding "that, but for the circumstances of the maritime war, our efforts would most probably have procured for the nation that peace and prosperity of which it greatly stands in need!!"—"We must," he says, "embrace this occasion to express the pain we feel in being under the necessity of proposing changes and innovations, to which the Dutch are in general so averse, from their attachment to their old usages and their regard to the memory of their ancestors. But we only propose such changes and innovations as are indispensably necessary for consolidating the existence of the kingdom, giving greater uniformity of system to its government, and promoting the happiness of its inhabitants. We are not unaware that innovations and changes give great offence, and often excite aversion against their authors, when their salutary effects are remote and imperceptible." He assures them that he leaves them "with the most anxious wishes, and the firm purpose," of again seeing them before the end of December.

INDIES, EAST.

Hindoo Perseverance in Devotion.—A shark, of most extraordinary dimensions, some months ago made its appearance in the upper parts of the river Hoogley, where the Hindoos are accustomed to perform their ablutions. Many attempts were made to destroy it, but in vain. Three Bramins, with several of their followers, were among its victims; and the greatest consternation prevailed among the bathers; who, notwithstanding, rather than forego a practice consecrated by their religion, were content to enjoy it at the risk of their lives.

INDIES, WEST.

Columbus's House.—St. Domingo. A French traveller who not long ago visited the island of St. Domingo, and the town of that name, in the Spanish part of the island, speaks highly of the judgment of Columbus in selecting a situation so happy, where the heats of the climate are constantly moderated by breezes: he also drew the plan of the town; the streets of which cross each other at right angles, and are of considerable breadth. The house which that distinguished navigator and discoverer built for his own residence is still standing; but in a dilapidated condition: no respect is paid to it; no inscription marks

it; no attention is bestowed on repairing it! Such is the gratitude of this island to the memory of Columbus "who to Castile and Leon gave a new world."

Dangerous Rock.—Tortola. The following article of marine intelligence is well worthy the attention of navigators and traders to Trinidad: Extract of a letter, dated July 1: As I never met in any of the charts of Trinidad the smallest notice of a sunken rock, which is in the Grand Bocas, I conceive it may be for the benefit of the British navy that its bearing and distance are accurately known. I had an opportunity of getting at its precise situation, on the morning of the 26th of June, the ship Samuel, Captain Suchree, of London, drawing seventeen feet water (of which I was on board) having stuck fast upon it for several hours. It is about forty yards in circumference, with nine feet at low water in the shoalest parts. While we lay aground, two of the convoy passed on each side of us without touching, although not twenty-five fathoms from us, the water being very deep all round. The bearings of this are—Chacachacarrero S.W. point E.N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile—Goose Island S.W. by W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W.—S.E. point of Cumana, bordering on the Grand Bocas W. by S.—Note. The current was setting very strong from the southward, with light variable winds.

ITALY.

The Population of Trieste never exceeded 40,000 persons; yet the contribution levied on it by Napoleon, equalled 50 millions of francs; not more than five of which could be raised. Since its occupation by the enemy, and the blockade by our squadron, its commercial greatness has vanished, and those families who once lived in splendour, are now reduced to poverty, and can scarcely procure the necessities of life.

Curious ancient Coin.—A Roman peasant has lately found in a field, at Monterose, a coin, which is supposed to be the most ancient that is extant. It is thought to have been coined by Servius Tullius, the sixth King of the Romans, who died in the year of Rome 213. It is consequently 2330 years old. Its weight is 11 oz. 17 pwts. and its diameter two inches ten lines. On one side it has the head of Minerva, seen in full face, with the helmet (*Pallade galeata*), and on the other an ox, and a small I, which indicates the first of the Roman figures. On the exergue is inscribed in large characters, *Roma*.—The metal is very pure, and has a considerable analogy to the Egyptian copper of the coins of the Ptolemies.

RUSSIA.

Copy of a Letter from Buonaparte to the Emperor of Russia.

[From the Times newspaper, which vouches for its authenticity.]

Monsieur my Brother,—The Duke of Vicenza informs me, that your Imperial Majesty wished for peace with Sweden, and that you have obtained the advantages which you desired. Will your Majesty permit me to congratulate you upon the event?

The negotiations of Altenburgh have been transferred to Vienna. Prince John of Lichtenstein conducts them with M. de Champagny, and I expect I shall soon be able to inform your Majesty of peace being concluded with Austria. You will see by the treaty, that, conformably to your wishes, the greater part of Galicia will not change masters; and that I have managed your interests as you would have done yourself, conciliating every thing with what honour required of me. The prosperity and welfare of the Duchy of Warsaw require that it should possess the favourable regards of your Majesty; and your Majesty's subjects may rest assured that, in no case, nor under any circumstances, have they to expect any protection from me.

I have given Austria the most advantageous peace that she could expect. She only loses Saltzburg, and a mere trifle on the side of the Inn. She cedes nothing in Bohemia. On the side of Italy she cedes only what is indispensable for my communication with Dalmatia. The Austrian Monarchy, therefore, remains entire. This is the second experiment which I have been willing to make. I have used towards her a moderation which she had no right to expect. In this I hope I have done what is gratifying to your Majesty.

I send your Majesty the English Journals last received, you will there see, that the English Ministers are fighting with each other; that there is a revolution in the Ministry, and that all is perfect anarchy. The folly and absurdity of that Cabinet are beyond description. They have recently occasioned the destruction of from 25 to 30,000 men in the most horrible country in the world; it would have been just as well to have thrown them into the sea; so pestilential are the marshes of Walcheren! In Spain they have lost a very considerable number of men. General Wellesley has had the extreme imprudence to commit himself in the heart of Spain with 30,000 men, having on his flanks three armies, consisting of 99 battalions, and from 40 to 50 squadrons, whilst he had in his front the army commanded by the King, which was of particular force. It is difficult to conceive such an act of presumption. It remains at present to be ascertained who are to succeed the late Ministry.

The United States are on the worst terms with England, and seem disposed, sincerely and seriously, to approximate to our system.

I pray God, Monsieur my brother, to have you in his high and holy keeping.—*Napoleon*.
Schoenbrunn, Oct. 10, 1809.

SICILY.

Marriages in the Families of Bourbon.—

The marriage of the Duke of Orleans with the Princess of Naples, it is said, has taken place; as well as that of the duke's sister to Prince Leopold, second son of the King of the Two Sicilies.—Should a change of fortune ever restore the Bourbons to the throne of France, the Orleans family will perhaps succeed to the throne.

SPAIN.

Bombardment of Gerona.—Nov. 9. By an account transmitted by the governor general of Gerona, it appears that from the 15th October, on which day the French re-opened their fire on Gerona, 75,623 balls were fired against that town, and 9058 grenades and 11,050 bombs thrown into the place, which still holds out.

Spanish Administration.—Names of the newly created Executive Council of Spain:—The President Marquis of Astorga, Grandee; the Marquis of Romana, Titulo de Castilla; the Marquis of Villal Grandio; Don Joseph Nicholas Garcia de la Torre; Don Rodrigo Riquelme; Don Francisco Xavier Caro, Don Sebastian de Jocano.

The Supreme Junta to the Spanish Nation.

SPANIARDS!—Our enemies announce, as positively certain, a peace in Germany; and the circumstances which accompany this notice give it a character of truth which leaves little room for doubt. They already threaten us with the powerful reinforcements which they suppose to be marching to complete our ruin. Already, proudly elated with the favourable aspect which their affair in the north have assumed, they insolently exhort us to submit to the clemency of the conqueror, and tamely bow our necks to the yoke.

What unheard-of insolence! unparalleled effrontery! which posterity will scarcely believe, notwithstanding the testimony of public records. Thus do these barbarians dare to impute to us the calamities which this country has suffered from their scandalous aggression, and thus make us responsible for those which are about to befall us anew, should we prolong our resistance. But when have we ever seen the innocent victims accused of the ferocity with which the inhuman tyrant sacrifices them? These declaimers very soon forget, when their armies entered Spain, how they entered—what posts they occupied—what was the signal of combat which they gave—and the whole series of gratuitous and unparalleled atrocities which they committed against us. Because in their own degraded hearts they find nothing but servile submission when they are feeble, and insolent atrocity when they are strong; they, forsooth, imagine that the Spaniards, equally destitute of the support of native fortitude, will renounce their just and lofty expectations. Who has told them that our virtue was to be assayed by so low a standard? They may, perhaps, throw greater obstacles in our way. We will redouble our efforts to surmount them. Our toils, our dangers, will be augmented. We shall acquire the greater glory.

No! slaves of Buonaparte, waste not your time in practising hacknied artifices, which, at this time of day, can deceive nobody. Speak out frankly, and say, "Because we think ourselves the most powerful, we are resolved to be the most wicked of mankind." This language, however barbarous the sentiment which it conveys, would be consistent and intelligible. But do not attempt to persuade us that the abandonment of our just rights is wisdom, and cowardice prudence. Though your iniquitous aggression has placed us between ignominy and death, what alternative can you expect a magnanimous nation to adopt, except that of defending itself to the last extremity, rather than consent to so disgraceful a submission? Rob, murder, waste, and destroy: that you have been doing for these twenty months past; but with what effect, you well know; and so also do the provinces you occupy; where, in proportion to the injuries you inflict upon them, increases the insuperable aversion they bear towards you, the eternal rancour and implacable revenge with which they incessantly swear to pursue you.

To yield!—Are these sophists really aware of the advice which they are giving to a people the most jealous of their honour of any nation upon the face of the globe? After such admirable efforts, such incredible successes, it would be an act of infamy, for which no precedent can be found in the pages of our history, to fall down at the feet of the crowned slave that Buonaparte has sent us for a king? And for what should we do so?—That, from the midst of his impious orgies, the pimps and parasites who offer him adulation, and the impure prostitutes who accompany him, he may point out with his finger the temples which are to be burnt, the manors which are to be partitioned among his odious satellites, the virgins and matrons who are to be dragged to his seraglio, the youths who are to be sent off as a tribute to the French *Minotaur*!

Think not, Spaniards, that the Junta thus addresses you to excite your valour by the arts of language. What occasion is there for words, when things speak for themselves with such persuasive energy? Your houses are demolished, your temples laid in ashes, your fields ravaged, your families dispersed, or hurried to the grave. Shall we have made so many sacrifices, shall the flames of war have consumed one half of Spain, in order that we should shamefully abandon the other half, to that much more destructive peace which awaits it at the hands of the enemy? Surely, nobody can be the dupe of the insidious parade of reform which the French hold forth in their proclamations. The Tartar, who governs them, has decreed that Spain shall have neither industry, nor commerce, nor colonies, nor population, nor any political representation whatsoever. To be turned into a vast and solitary sheep walk, in order to breed flocks which shall supply the French manufactures with our valuable wools; to form a nursery of human beings, to be hurried away to slaughter; misery, ruin, degradation in every part of the Peninsula:—such is the fate to which he consigns the country the most favoured by Heaven of any upon earth! But should our apathy even go so far as to induce us to abandon interests so highly

valuable, could we ever consent to the total destruction of that holy religion in which we were born, and which in all our proceedings, civil and political, we have sworn to preserve? Shall we, then, abandon the interests of heaven, and the faith of our fathers, to the sacrilegious derision of a frantic banditti? And shall the Spanish nation, celebrated in every quarter of the globe for their fervid piety, forsake the sanctuary, which, for seven successive centuries, and with the loss of thousands of warriors, our ancestors defended against the impious ferocity of the Saracens? Were we so to act, the victims who have fallen in this memorable contest, would lift up their heads from their graves, and say to us—'Perfidious, ungrateful wretches! Have we fallen an idle sacrifice? Is our blood of no estimation in your eyes?' No! brave fellow-countrymen, now no more, rest in peace, and let not that agonizing solicitude disturb the repose of your sepulchres. Your glorious example has taught us our first and greatest duty, and we are perfectly convinced that the peace which we ought to seek is not behind, but before us. It is through war and combats, it is by valour and noble daring, that we have to procure that tranquillity, that repose, of which those traitors have despoiled us. Do we fear death? Many of our companions have already met it, and sealed with their blood the solemn oath which all of us have taken. Who can fly from it? Who shall dissolve that alliance of glory and danger to which all of us are subject? Our country is laid waste, and we are insulted, and treated as a vile herd of cattle, which are bought and sold, and slaughtered when our master pleases. Our King—Spaniards! Would you have infused into your hearts that ardour and energy which lead to victory?—remember the vile, the treacherous manner in which this abominable Usurper tore him from our arms. He called himself his ally, his protector, his friend; he pretended to give him the kiss of peace, but his embraces are the folds of the serpent which twine round the innocent victim, and drag him captive to his cavern. A perfidy unknown to civilized nations, and scarcely practised among the most barbarous, was reserved in store for our unfortunate monarch. Behold, condemned to groan in solitude, surrounded by guards and spies, the idolized object of your hopes; him, whom you destined to the glory of the throne, that he may govern you with benevolence and justice. See him incessantly fixing his streaming eyes upon his country? Hear him, amidst the anguish of his sufferings, imploring the valour of his beloved Spaniards, and calling upon them for liberty or revenge.

There is no peace—there can be no peace in this state of things. That Spain should be free, was, and still is, the universal wish of the nation; or that it may become an immense desert, one vast sepulchre, where the accumulated carcasses of French and Spaniards shall exhibit to future ages our glory and their ignominy.

But fortune is not so inimical to virtue as to leave to its defenders, only that melancholy alternative. It is written in heaven, and the history of all ages attests the fact, that the people who are decidedly attached to their liberty and independence, must ultimately establish

them, in despite of all the artifices and all the violence of tyranny. Victory, which is so frequently the boon of fortune, must be the reward of fortitude and constancy. What but these defended the small republics of Greece from the barbarous invasions of Xerxes? What protected the capitol when assailed by the Gauls? What preserved it from the arms of Hannibal? What, in more modern times, rescued the Swiss from German tyranny, and gave independence to Holland, notwithstanding the great power of our ancestors? What, in fine, inspires at present the Tyrolese with such heroic resolution, that, though surrounded on every side by enemies, and abandoned by their protectors, they take refuge in their rocks, and on the summit of their mountains, and hurl defiance and defeat on the battalions of the conqueror of Dantzic? Let us, bravely, imitate their example; our situation is the same; we are animated with the same ardour, and should support ourselves with the same hopes. The God of armies, for whom we fight, will protect us, and in reward for the unshaken fortitude with which we have encountered adversity, will finally conduct us through all the dangers that surround us to the throne of independence.

Spaniards! the Junta announces this to you frankly, that you may not for a moment be ignorant of the danger which threatens your country; they announce it to you, with confidence that you will shew yourselves worthy of the cause which you defend, and of the admiration of the universe; they announce it to you, because appointed to the sacred duty of saving the state, and, convinced that it is the unanimous wish of the Spaniards to secure their freedom at every risk, they will make every possible effort to expel the enemy.

When the storm rages, the most valuable treasures must be thrown into the sea to save the vessel from sinking.—Perish the man whose selfishness can render him wanting in his duty, or induce him to conceal what is necessary to be distributed among his brethren for the common defence!—Perish a thousand times the wretch who can prefer his own interest to the delivery of his country! All such the state will severely punish. Our enemies omit no means which can be employed for our destruction, and shall we neglect any which can conduce to our preservation? There are provinces which have driven out the enemy from among them; and shall not those who have not yet suffered from such a scourge, sacrifice every thing to preserve themselves from it? Our brave soldiers endure the rigours of winter, and the scorching heats of summer, and nobly encounter all the dangers of battle; and shall we, remaining quietly at our homes, forgetful of their incalculable fatigues, think only of preserving our wishes, and refuse to resign even the least of our luxurious enjoyments?

The victory must be ours, if we continue and conclude the great enterprize we have undertaken with the same enthusiasm with which we begun it. The colossal mass of force and resistance which we must oppose to our enemy, must be composed of the forces of all, of the sacrifices of all; and then what will it import that he

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pours upon us anew the legions with which he has been successful in Germany, or the swarm of conscripts he endeavours to drag from France? With 80,000 less troops than we now have, we begun the war; it was begun on his side with 200,000 more. The experience we have obtained in two campaigns, and our very desperation, will consign these hordes of banditti to the same fate which the former have suffered. —If some of the Monarchs of the North have consented to become the slaves of this new Tamerlane, and at the expence of ages of infamy have purchased a moment's respite till their turn shall come to be devoured; what is that to us, a great nation, resolved to triumph or perish? When we, twenty months ago, armed against tyranny, did we ask their consent? Did we not enter into the contest, single-handed? Did we not, for one campaign, maintain it single-handed? Europe, when she first heard of it, refused to believe it. When she saw it, she looked upon it as a sudden and ephemeral meteor; and even now, contemplating the effects of our constancy and our magnanimity, in the midst of our reverses, she considers it as a phenomenon, a prodigy, in the series of political events. Let her continue to behold us, as she ought, with admiration, or, if it must be so, with terror. We are deficient in none of the means necessary for our defence. Our connection is daily drawn closer with America, to whose assistance, equally well-timed and generous, the Mother Country is so deeply indebted, and in whose zeal and loyalty is centered a great part of our hopes. We are resolved to perish or triumph. The alliance we have contracted with the British nation continues, and will continue.—That nation has lavished for us its blood and its treasure, and is entitled to our gratitude, and that of future ages. Let the machinations of intrigue, or the suggestions of fear, prevail with weak governments, or misled cabinets; let them (and welcome!) conclude treaties of peace, illusory on the part of him who grants, and disgraceful on the part of those who accept them. Let all those Great Potentates relinquish the cause of civilised nations, and inhumanly abandon their allies—the Spanish people shall firmly stand alone amidst the ruins of the European Continent.

Here is drawn, never to be sheathed, the sword of eternal hatred to the execrable tyrant; here is raised, never to be lowered, the standard of independence and justice. Hasten to it, all ye who wish not to live under the abominable yoke, ye who cannot enter into a league with iniquity; and ye who are indignant at the cowardly desertion of deluded Princes, hasten to us. Here the valiant shall find opportunities of acquiring true honour; the wise and virtuous obtain respect, and the oppressed find an asylum—our cause is the same, the same be our danger, the same our reward. Come hither, and in despite of all the arts, and all the power of this inhuman despot, you shall witness how we will render dim his star, and be ourselves the creators of our own destiny.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF LAODICEA, President.
PEDRO DE RIVERO, Secretary.
Royal Alcazar of Seville, Nov. 21, 1809."

Official Specimen of extraordinary French Atrocity.

Considering the necessity of multiplying the resources of the army of his Imperial Majesty, and of depriving the rebels and traitors of the means of procuring animals to accomplish their atrocious designs, it is hereby declared, that all the horses and mares belonging to the provinces in Upper Spain, viz. in the districts of Salamanca, Zamora, Toro, Leon, Placentia, Burgos, Guipuscoa, and Alava, of the height of four feet four inches, or five feet and half an inch of the measure of Spain, and from thence upward, are in requisition for the service of the armies of France, and are to be conducted to the capital of the respective Governments, where they are to be received and maintained by the Governors, until the returns made to me shall enable me to give directions for the disposal of them.

All the horses of less than 4 feet 4 inches, or 5 feet $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, Spanish measure, also mares pregnant for more than 3 months, and horses and mares that are not 30 months old, and less than the height mentioned, ARE TO HAVE THE LEFT EYE PUT OUT, and are to be rendered, by other proper means, unfit for military service by the proprietors themselves. Those who presume to disobey this command are to be mulcted in four times the value of the animals.

The execution of this order is to be committed to the Governors, Commandants of Arms, and to the Commandants of Detachments and Flying Columns. (Signed) KELLERMAN,
28th Oct. 1809. Gen. of Division, and Governor General of Upper Spain.

SWEDEN.

Expences of the late War.—According to an official statement published at Stockholm, the war with Russia has cost Sweden from the beginning in 1808, to May 1809, the sum of 14,319,354 rix dollars (about £3,000,000) the subsidies received from England have amounted to 6,214,802 rix-dollars. But as the province of West Bothnia has suffered severely, the expences of the war may be estimated at 16,000,000 rix-dollars.

THE TYROL.

THE Tyrolese have excited the attention of Europe, by the vigorous struggle which they have prolonged against the French arms, and the victories which they have obtained over large bodies of the best troops of their invader. To those triumphs, the nature of their country has undoubtedly contributed: their personal prowess has been favoured by the difficulties which an enemy must experience in his approach. The attention of Europe has been followed by the applause of Britain; the reception of two deputies from their country, has been very flattering at London. These deputies are a major and a private of their volunteers. It is honourable to our country that the oppressed from all parts turn hither their eyes, as to their hope of re-

fuge. If any power can assist them, under heaven, it is Britain. Alive to such feelings, it is natural that our countrymen should desire a better acquaintance with this people, their modes of life, their talents and propensities. We have endeavoured to gratify this desire, by translating from a foreign journal, an article of which they are the subject. The very insertion of this paper in such a vehicle of intelligence, is a kind of homage paid to valour and freedom: for, surely, if the Tyrolese had not distinguished themselves by their exertions in the cause they have espoused, they would not have been distinguished by the insertion of this account in any continental publication. The press is too much shackled by the agents of Buonaparte to suffer truth to appear openly. We may trace her by a kind of reflected light; but her direct beams are not permitted to illuminate any country where Gallic oppression has sufficient influence to shroud them in a murky cloud.

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The country which at present forms the Tyrol and the Grisons, was formerly inhabited by the *Rhetians* or *Rhetii*; the same people which, having in early ages rendered themselves masters of Italy, were known to the Greeks and the Romans, under the names of *Tyrrheni*, *Etrusci*, and *Tuscani*. The *Rhetians* were a brave people, and difficult to subjugate. The Romans, who always calumniated the nations which resisted them, called them *Brigands*, and asserted, that they massacred all their prisoners of war. But, these reports, though transmitted to us by all the Latin historians, were but little credited among the more enlightened people at Rome.

The Tyrol, were it interspersed with beautiful lakes, would be another Switzerland; as it is in other respects. It possesses similar elevations, and similar slopes of land: we there behold at the same time, mountains covered with ice, and hills clad with rich vineyards; on one side a desert, on the other, cantons cruded with population: we often discover the empire of Flora separated from actual winter, simply by the intervention of rising rocks. The country is not generally very fertile; and the whole of what it yields proves insufficient for the consumption of its inhabitants; but this they amply compensate by their industry.

Few nations are more industrious than the Tyrolese: the rearing of silk worms, the cultivation of hemp, flax, and tobacco, afford them ample resources. Their mountains contain minerals of all sorts: these they well know how to obtain. At the approach of the inclement season of the year, which obliges them to take shelter in their huts, where they are literally imprisoned by

the snow and torrents, and around which, nature seems to exhibit no traces of vegetation; it is difficult to conceive the variety of their labours and occupations; some are engaged in breeding and taming birds, particularly canary birds, the exportation of which produces nearly *four thousand pounds* per annum: others are employed in making straw hats and baskets, which are remarkably neat, and generally find a ready market in Bavaria and Suabia. The women who inhabit the rude valley of Monafou, are occupied in spinning of flax; and those of the Hartzberg and the Voralberg, in embroidering muslin, knitting of stockings, caps, &c.

The habitations of these mountaineers during the winter, present a very interesting sight: we often behold ten women sitting round a table, each of them plying the distaff or the spinning wheel: at some distance in the same room, we find an old man engaged in making hoops, while at hand a number of boys is busied in finishing boxes, or making cases for instruments, and different sorts of toys, which are exported to Spain, Portugal, and America. In the neighbourhood of Bregentz, there are women who from one pound of cotton will manufacture 130 bobbins, each containing 1300 French cli.

In the upper valley of the Tyrol, there are villages whence the inhabitants emigrate during two months in every year; they proceed to Switzerland and Germany, where they engage themselves as carpenters, masons, or shepherds. Nor it is seldom that troops of children amounting to twenty or thirty in a company, conducted by an old man, are seen forsaking for a while their paternal roof. As soon as they are capable of gaining their own subsistence, these youngsters leave their native land, each of them provided with a hurdy-gurdy, a havresack, and a small stock of oaten bread. The wages they receive as shepherds in Suabia are but very trifling; here in the meadows and fields they pass the summer, living on coarse bread and roots, still retaining amid such a solitary and painful mode of living, their gaiety and good morals. Towards the conclusion of the autumn, they are re-conducted to their rude hamlets by the same old men, each of them bringing back 5 or 6 florins, as the fruits of his labour during a whole summer.

The science of the mathematics seems innate among the Tyrolese. Without any previous instruction, they guess the principles of mechanism, and often make astonishing improvements therein. This may be instanced in the skill of Peter Anich, who, from a simple shepherd, became a very good geographical engineer; drew the first accurate map of the Tyrol that has been published,

and constructed a globe in a wonderful approach to perfection, still seen at Inspruck.

Their genius is principally exercised on hydraulic works. On the loftiest slopes, you perceive rivulets falling at various distances on wheels of rude workmanship, the simple mechanism of which, answers all the important purposes of domestic economy. The grinding of corn, the extracting of oil, the sharpening of tools, the watering the meadows, all these operations are performed by the rivulets and their water mills. Each peasant has his mill, which he erects and alters according to his purposes.

M. Rollier relates, that having entered a peasant's cottage, he found there only a child a few months old, whose cradle rocked in a regular and constant manner, without any person to give the impulse. The cause of this phenomenon having excited his curiosity, he discovered that a cord fastened to the cradle, extended as far as a beam outside the house, on which a wheel, set in motion by a neighbouring rivulet, bestowed a regular movement.

The number of Tyrolese who yearly emigrate from and return to their homes, is estimated at *thirty or forty thousand*. They travel into foreign countries and exercise either a profession or some sort of trade. In the latter case, they have commonly partners in their own country, with whom they divide their profits with a probity, from which they have never swerved. The following is their method of accounting. When the Tyrolese traveller is returned home, his partners are immediately apprised of his arrival, and they appoint a meeting. The traveller empties his bag of gold on the table; each takes the share which belongs to him according to the sum he has embarked in the speculation; and all accounts are thus settled at once. The meeting concludes with a hearty shake of hands, and a fraternal banquet; here mirth reigns, and here they discuss the speculations for the next year.

In so industrious a country, the traveller would naturally expect to find some flourishing cities, and considerable townships, but in this he is deceived. The Tyrolese have a dislike to see their dwellings enclosed by any neighbourhood; they therefore possess few cities or villages.

Inspruck, formerly the capital of the whole principality, is situated at the foot of mountains on the banks of the Inn. It is well built, and contains about 12,000 inhabitants. The public buildings consist of the new and the old castle, the church belonging to the court, the town hall, with an obelisk erected in honour of the Holy Virgin.

Hall, a city containing 4,000 inhabitants. The making of salt is carried on here to a

very great extent: there is also a mint here, for coining of money.

Schwartz, a city containing 8,000 inhabitants: here is the seat of the administration for conducting the business of the mines.

Kuffstein, a very important fortress: the only one regularly built, in the Tyrol.

Feldkirch, a considerable hamlet; near which there is a camp strongly intrenched.

Lintz, a town, famous for a breed of cattle.

Brixen, a city of 4,000 inhabitants.

Bozen, a city containing 8,000 inhabitants; situated at the foot of a huge mountain, which seems to threaten destruction by its overhanging rocks. In this neighbourhood, the inhabitants are chiefly engaged in cultivating the vine.

Bolzano, is the intermediate commercial repository for Italy and Germany; the inhabitants are considered as being very wealthy.

Trent, a city containing seven hundred houses, and ten thousand inhabitants. It is extremely well built, and contains a number of merchants and manufacturers. The episcopal palace, a structure in the gothic style, abounds in marble monuments, and *fresco* paintings. The church of *Notre Dame* is celebrated for having been the place of meeting of the council of Trent. The principal square is ornamented by a very handsome marble fountain.

Roveredo, a commercial and manufacturing city;—computed to contain 18,000 inhabitants, and consequently it is the most considerable city in the Tyrol. Silk weaving holds the first rank among those branches of industry, which have raised this city to so flourishing a state. It is built in the Italian style; and like the Italian cities boasts of a very good Academy.

WALES, NEW SOUTH.

New Chapel and School.—We are glad to hear that, in this country, where the gospel is so much needed, a commendable effort of Christian zeal has been manifested. In the district of Portland Head, on the banks of the river Hawkesbury, several of the settlers have come forward, by a subscription, to erect a chapel and school-house. One of the settlers has given four acres of ground for the purpose: and about £200 was subscribed. The spot, which is delightfully situated, is now called *Ebenezer Mount*. The institution is named "The Portland Head Society, for the Propagation of Christian knowledge, and the Instruction of Youth." Mr. Hassal and Mr. Youl, formerly missionaries at Otaheite, are the ministers. A supply of Bibles, Testaments, Watts's psalm and hymn books, and school books, will be very acceptable. They will be received by the Secretary of the Missionary Society, 53, Hatton Garden.

POLITICAL PERISCOPE.

Panorama Office, Dec. 27, 1809.

"Charity," says the proverb, "begins at home;" to which is often added, "but it should not end there." Politics, or the labours of government, should certainly begin at home; for home is the heart, the life, the center of the system; but they should not end there. Foreign politics are of importance, though not of equal importance to home prosperity. To us, as Britons, nothing in the political world is of such moment as the approach of a meeting of Parliament. That the last sessions of that august body was uncommonly prolific in interesting events, and produced more than usual bustle, cannot be forgot, for scarcely are the agitated waves of opposing opinions yet settled; to such a height were they raised by disclosures affecting public officers in the highest stations. Those disclosures, considered solely as to their effects, and without scrutiny of motives or means, present a mingled spectacle, imparting joy and grief to the real well-wisher of his country. Those disclosures are likely to be the fruitful parents of a progeny, which, in the ensuing sessions, will give pain to the attentive, and anguish to the candid. Those disclosures are hitherto imperfect; and how to convey a hint of their nature, without contributing to widen a breach where all should be unity, and to accuse of malignity where such an accusation approaches to *scandalum magnatum*, exceeds our dexterity. Should we state facts that have come to our knowledge, the proofs of those facts would be required of us; and the issue would be in *Banco Regis*. Yet to withhold allusion to them entirely, is incompatible with that perpetual vibration of the tongue which accompanies a disposition for political inquisitiveness. But if it should so happen that the mask of patriotism, assumed by personal ambition to accomplish its own purposes should be removed; if falsehood, open falsehood, should be proved on individuals, whose superiority in life should preserve them from such degrading meannesses; if the public should be convinced that, as says the proverb, "all is not gold that glitters;" then will it be recollected that the Panorama alluded to such events before they were notorious; and stated, in plain language, that others beside "Dickon of England, were bought and sold."

We have often differed in opinion from those who by office should be the best informed persons in the kingdom; we have often differed, too, from those whose discourse, like a draught of wind through a long open gallery, is a perpetual howl; whose imaginations are haunted with more ghosts,

hobgoblins, and doubles, than all Mrs. Radcliffe's Romances. We cannot say, without exception, "whatever is is right;" nor without exception, "whatever is is wrong." There are many causes of anxiety; the operation of these we fear. There are many causes of hope: that these may issue in reality we heartily desire.

We think it not impossible that Buonaparte has commissioned a circuitous whisper of the word *peace*; whether he will speak out manfully, we doubt. We think, certainly, that his star declines; but he may not be sensible of that fact, as yet; or, if sensible of it himself, he may endeavour, through policy, to prevent others from noticing it. It may be some time, even, ere it becomes obvious to the world; yet, that he has almost reached the bounds of those horrors to which his commission extends, several indications persuade us. Either his person or his power may shortly suffer. He will then be no more distinguished among men: or, as the sun which has shed human blood in abundance might be in a civilized nation; or as the singularly bloody guillotine now is in France, pointed at as a memorial of extensive executions.

If it were notorious of any other potentate that he had scampered before his company, like a Harlequin, to shew them a sight; if his morning ride had been prolonged to sixty miles when six would have served; would the world think him *compos mentis*? Neither shall we think the man *compos mentis* who in a public paper, can boast of the extent of his dominions; or, in a letter of form to a crowned head, can wander from his subject by impertinent allusions: nor him, who, having divorced one *Empress!!!* and "being arrived at the age of forty years," intends to marry another. "God knows," says he, "how much such a resolution has cost me heart; but there is no sacrifice beyond my courage, when it is proved to me to be necessary to the welfare of France"—Who proved this necessity to him?—who bid him look forward to "thirty years additional of life"—to a period long enough to "educate his children" yet to be begotten, and on a consort yet to be married? This language is that of arrogance, the next of kin to

Moon-struck madness laughing wild!

When such aberrations of intellect are conspicuous in national documents, nature is about to put ambition to silence. Whatever losses Buonaparte has lately inflicted on others, they have not produced adequate gain to himself. The lives lost by France in Spain cannot be less than three hundred thousand with three hundred millions of lires. What advantage to compensate this has Buonaparte obtained? He boasts of dominion over the

provinces!—two provinces, that scarcely resisted him, have been—conquered? No:—plundered—by his troops! What inch of ground does he hold of which he had not possession previous to Dupont's surrender? Has any of his generals penetrated so far south as that unfortunate officer had? And supposing he himself, in the plenitude of his wrath, should subjugate the whole peninsula, —when he has calculated the cost, and estimated the nothingness of his acquisition, where is the proof of his wisdom in beginning, conducting, or persevering to the bloody termination of this prodigal undertaking?

It passes for certain that Holland is destined to undergo another transformation: what a mass of miserable disappointments is presented by that unhappy country! When it was first invaded by the French what boasts of inexhaustible wealth!—incalculable commerce!—tons of gold!—and a dock-yard!—yes, re-echoed the hall of audience—a dock-yard, *ad infinitum*! A single blow annihilated this wondrous dock-yard: prohibitions annihilated this incalculable commerce: the Dutchmen denied all knowledge of these tons of gold:—and when the French Mercuries essayed to move the broad-bottomed Mynheers in the service of liberty, they shoved them behind, but there was no stirring them; they jerked them on one side, they tugged them on the other side, but the *vis inertiae* was equally invincible by repulsion or attraction, motion there was none. So Buonaparte sent thither a gilded coach, and thought a set of eight royal horses would draw the Amsterdammers, *à la Française*, to wherever the driver should dictate. What has been the result? the coach is returning to Paris; and the Dutch are reported incorrigible. “The people will be governed by myself, as conquered provinces.” The frogs in the marshes will deem their good fortune incredible,—“that they should have all that vast territory of mud to themselves!”—Yes, except when pelted with stones to amuse a few Gallic school-boy commissaries; or when to be served up to table by way of *fricassee* as the *summum bonum* of a Frenchman's gluttony—a frog-feast!

Spain will prove equally deceptive to the Emperor and King. If his majesty loves pork, he may cram himself with sausages; if garlic and oil can satiate him, he may be satiated with garlic and oil. He may force a few slaves to call him *Massa*: but the obedience of the heart, the frank services of affection—they ARE NOT.

DIDASCALIA.

“DIDASCALIA! Why, this is the wrong place for DIDASCALIA!” True, gentle readers, so it is: but start not; for we think it our duty to apprise you, that the actors of the National Theatres of France and Eng-

land, have agreed to exchange a performance or two, from their respective stock plays.

The French have rehearsed already, by command of the Emperor and King, *The Beau Stratagem*: the following scene was publicly performed (by the *Court Performers*; we have annexed the proper names) with great applause, to an overflowing house, “on the fifteenth day of December, at nine o'clock in the evening, in the year 1809.”—The Play was strongly cast:

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Mr. Sullen,	{ <i>Napoleon, the Emperor and King.</i>
Mrs. Sullen,	{ <i>Josephine, Empress of France.</i>
Lady Bountiful,	<i>Madame.</i>
Sir Charles Freeman }	<i>Lewis, King of Holland.</i>
Archer,	{ <i>Jerome, King of Westphalia.</i>
Aimwell,	{ <i>Joachim, King of Naples.</i>
Foigard,	{ <i>Cambaceres, Arch-Chancellor of the Empire.</i>
Gibbet,	{ <i>Count Regnault de St. Jean d'Angely.</i>
Scrub,	<i>Eugene Napoleon.</i>
Cherry,	<i>Julie.</i>
Gipsey,	<i>Hortense.</i>
Other servants,	<i>Catherine, Pauline, Caroline.</i>

We add the last scene, as a specimen of the performance: to do justice to the performers is out of our power.

Emperor.—This good company meets opportunely in favour of a design I have in behalf of my unfortunate spouse: I intend to part from her—gentlemen, will you assist me?

Jerome.—Assist you! 'sdeath, who would not?

Cambaceres.—Ay, upon my shoul, we'll all assist.

Emperor.—They tell me, spouse, that you had like to have been murdered.

Empress.—Truly, spouse, I was pretty near it—Had not some gentlemen interposed.

Emperor.—How came those gentlemen there?

Empress.—That's his way of returning thanks, you must know.

Cambaceres.—Ay, but upon my conscience de question be à propos for all dat.—

Empress.—Hold, gentlemen, all things here must move by consent; let my dear and I talk the matter over, and you shall judge it between us.

Emperor.—Let me see who are to be our judges:—pray, sir, who are you?

Louis.—I am, sir, Louis Napoleon, King of Holland, come to—

Emperor.—And you, good sir?

Jerome.—Jerome Napoleon, King of Westphalia, come to—

Emperor.—And you, pray sir?

Joachim.—Joachim Napoleon, King of Naples, come to—

Emperor.—To take away my mother, I hope. Gentlemen, you're heartily welcome: I never met more obliging people since I was born.—And now, my dear, if you please, I'll have the first word: How long have we been married?—by the almanack fifteen years.

Empress.—'Tis thereabout by my reckoning.

Cambaceres.—Upon my conscience dere accounts vil agreee.

Empress.—Pray, spouse, what did you marry for?

Emperor.—To get an heir to my estate.

Louis.—And have you succeeded?

Emperor.—No.

Joachim.—*The condition fails on his side.*

—Pray, madam, what did you marry for?

Empress.—To support the weakness of my sex by the strength of his, and to enjoy the pleasures of an agreeable society.

Louis.—Are your expectations answered?

Empress.—No.

Cambaceres.—Arra honeys, a clear caase, a clear caase!

Louis.—What are the bars to your mutual contentment?

Empress.—I can't hunt with him.

Emperor.—Nor can I dance with her.

Empress.—Your silence is intolerable.

Emperor.—Your prating is worse.—Is there on earth a thing we can agree in?

Empress.—Yes—to part.

Emperor.—These hands joined us, these shall part us.—Away—

Empress.—East.

Emperor.—West.

Empress.—North.

Emperor.—South; far as the poles asunder.

Cambaceres.—Upon my shoul a very pretty sheremony.

Louis.—'Twould be hard to guess which is the better pleased, a couple joined, or this couple parted; one rejoices in hopes of an untasted happiness, the other in deliverance from an experienced misery.

Both happy in their several states, we find:

Those parted by consent, and those conjoin'd.

Consent, if mutual, saves the lawyer's fee;

CONSENT IS LAW ENOUGH TO SET THEM FREE.

Exeunt omnes.

Notwithstanding the éclat of this scene on the French stage, it is thought the English will succeed equally well (in spite of their natural phlegm) in *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* of Moliere. To refresh the memory of our readers, we annex Scene 2 of Act III.

The Emperor and King Napoleon-le-Grand, John Bull, Servants, &c.

Emperor.—John Bull!

John Bull.—Plait-il?

Emperor.—Econtez.

John Bull.—Hi, hi, bi, bi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Qu'as-tu à rire?

John Bull.—Hi, hi, bi, bi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Que veut dire ce coquin-là?

John Bull.—Hi, hi, hi. Comme vous voilà bâti! Hi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Comment donc?

John Bull.—Ah, ah, mon Dieu! Hi, hi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Quel fripon est-ce là? Te moques-tu de moi?

John Bull.—Nenni, Monsieur, j'en serois bien fâché. Hi, hi, bi, bi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Je te baillerais sur le nez, si tu ris davantage.

John Bull.—Monsieur, je ne puis pas m'en empêcher. Hi, hi, bi, bi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Tu ne t'arrêteras pas?

John Bull.—Monsieur, je vous demande pardon; mais vous êtes si plaisant, que je ne me saurois tenir de rire. Hi, hi, hi.

Emperor.—Mais voyez quelle insolence!

John Bull.—Vous êtes tout-à-fait drôle comme cela. Hi, hi.

Emperor.—Je te.....

John Bull.—Je vous prie de m'excuser. Hi, hi, bi, bi.

Emperor.—Tiens, si tu ris encore le moins du monde, je te jure que je t'appliquerai sur la joue le plus grand soufflet qui se soit jamais donné.

John Bull.—Hé bien! Monsieur, voilà qui est fait, je ne rirai plus.

Emperor.—Prends-y bien garde. Il faut que, pour tantôt, tu nettoies.....

John Bull.—Hi, hi.

Emperor.—Que tu nettoies comme il faut.....

John Bull.—Hi, hi.

Emperor.—Il faut, dis-je, que tu nettoies la salle, &c.....

John Bull.—Hi, hi.

Emperor.—Encore?

John Bull (tombant à force de rire.)—Tenez, Monsieur, battez-moi plutôt, et me laissez rire tout mon saoul; cela me fera plus de bien. Hi, hi, bi, bi.

Emperor.—J'enrage.

John Bull.—De grâce, Monsieur, je vous prie de me laisser rire. Hi, hi, bi.

Emperor.—Si je te prends.....

John Bull.—Monsieur, je crèverai, si je ne ris. Hi, hi, bi.

Emperor.—Mais a-t-on jamais vu un pendard comme celà, qui me vient rire insolamment au nez, au lieu de recevoir mes ordres?

John Bull.—Que voulez-vous que je fasse, Monsieur?

Emperor.—Que tu songes, coquin, à préparer ta maison pour la compagnie qui doit venir tantôt.

John Bull.—Ah! par ma foi, je n'ai plus envie de rire; & toutes vos compagnies font tant de désordre céans, que ce mot est assez pour me mettre en mauvaise humeur.

Emperor.—Ne dois-je point, pour toi, fermer mes ports à tout le monde?

John Bull.—Vous devriez au moins les fermer à certaines gens.

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The health of the lately-crowned King of Sweden, is reported to be in a dangerous state: should he die soon, nobody would wonder at seeing a French General appointed to succeed him. To prepare for this, Bernadotte was nominated at a diet, with much the same intention as candidates are among ourselves; not to be elected, but to be recollected: he had two votes. Sweden, has recovered Pomerania, by her treaty with France. France also grants personal security to the late king of Sweden to proceed to Switzerland, for his future residence.

The most important political incident at present affecting Britain is, her discussion with America. The negotiation is avowedly broken off. The President has opened Congress with a speech, in which he justifies the measure; it appears to have been a question depending on the diplomatic principle, that a public officer, may know that as an individual, which as a national minister he is supposed not to know; and therefore may plead and maintain his ignorance of it. We should be sorry on a question of simple fact, to find truth on the side of America: we wait for our minister's statement of what has happened.

By what we are able to learn, the late attempt of Buonaparte to establish his power in Persia, and other Asiatic courts, will ultimately prove beneficial to the British interests, by fixing the attention of our government, on the necessity of establishing and increasing its influence in those courts. To this the presence of a Persian ambassador in London, cannot but contribute. We hope India with its connexions will continue in peace.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Warwickshire.—The weather during the early part of the month, has been rather unfavourable to the young wheats, particularly on low situations. The low wheats rise better to the flail than was expected, their quality in general fine; not having sustained so much injury from the mildew as was supposed. Barley continues a rough indifferent sample: fine barley that will malt well, is in demand. Oats turn out a good crop, and only require some sharp weather to render them good

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provender. Peas and beans turn out more than an average crop. The late sown turnips are much improved. Sheep in low situations and where the turf is thin—many have died of the dry rot. Wool stationary, at about 1s. per lb.

Suffolk.—The wheats look well considering we have had so much rain, excepting on the very cold lands. Turnips and the rowings, yield abundance of feed, owing to the mildness of the season, and continuance of the rain, coleworts look healthy and well. The new wheats, barley, oats, beans, and peas, rise about 3 parts of a crop. Potatoes are a good crop and sell at 4 shillings per sack: our corn markets are lower, without any alteration in the price of flour, as there ought to be.

Essex.—This month little can be said of the operations in the fields, as that kind of work is dormant. The forward sown wheats look well; and the latter pieces make a pleasing show. The same opinion still prevails, that the produce of last year's crop is somewhat slender. Clover-seed thrashing is scarcely begun. The weather being so mild during the autumn, the herbage for cattle has held out beyond what is common. Turnips are fine, but the weather has not been in favour of the grazing stock. The prices of both lean and fat beasts are looking upwards.

STATE OF TRADE.

Lloyd's Coffee House, December 20, 1809.

We have the pleasure to announce the safe arrival of the following vessels on account of the East-India Company, viz. the Bombay, Upton Castle, and David Scott. Their cargoes consist of the undermentioned commodities: Company's goods, 1,698,855 lbs. of cotton, 1 cwt. of hemp.—Privilege goods, 5,944 bales; 80 half bales of cotton; 49 bales of hemp; 317 bags of alkali; 10 bags of mother-o'-pearl; and 80 boxes of nutmegs and cloves. Besides several other parcels of goods, the particulars of which are not yet known. We understand that it is the intention of the East-India Company to pay for their freightage in future by bills at three months. Notwithstanding the reported rigour with which the non-intercourse act is enforced in America, four vessels are arrived at Liverpool within the last few days from the United States; and the expectation of further supplies in the same way, as well as by a circuitous route, has damped the spirit of speculation in articles of American produce, and less business has been done in the cotton-market during the ten days immediately antecedent to the date of our report, than for any similar period for many months past.

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It is the wish, as it is the interest, of every honest trader on either side of the Atlantic, that the existing differences between this country and North America should be speedily adjusted, and the meeting of the Congress is looked to as the epoch of that event; but late reports do not favour this expectation: the final adjustment of all differences seems to be postponed to a distant date, if we may credit the latest intelligence. It is said that notwithstanding the evacuation of Flushing, the Board of Trade has granted licences to trade to Walcheren for two months.—All the thips of war and merchantmen from the Baltic (except such as may be frozen in) may soon be expected. The merchants declare, that there never was so vast a trade carried on with so little loss as that to the Baltic has been during the present year. The number of vessels that have passed through the Belt, under the protection of Admiral Dixon's squadron alone, between the 25th of June and the 8th of November amounts to 2210, not one of which has been captured by the enemy, notwithstanding the repeated attempts of the Danish gun-boats, more than 100 in number, to annoy them during the passage of the Belt in calms.—The Lords of Trade have refused the granting of further licences for the sailing of ships to the port of Embden, without assigning any reason for this sudden and unexpected determination. Three convoys have sailed from this country for Sweden since it was known here that the Swedish ports were to be shut against us on the 15th instant. This circumstance, we suppose, implies some understanding between the two governments; be this as it may, several vessels are still lading in the river for the Swedish market. The value of the English colonial produce and manufactures confiscated in Trieste, including the Sicilian goods, is estimated at six millions of guilders; * but as the English cruisers have captured some vessels laden with this merchandize, on their passage to Venice, all the confiscated goods are now conveyed thither by land.—Within the last month, the islands of Zante, Cephalonia, Ithaca, &c. have fallen into our hands. The two former are noted for producing that species of currants, which when dried, constitute a considerable article of commerce, being of essential use for culinary and pharmaceutical purposes. There are only two vineyards in the island of Zante, that produce the grapes (*uva Corinthiaca*) from which the currants are prepared. These vineyards are situated in a delightful plain about the middle of the island. The grapes are gathered in the month of August, and laid

* The guilder is equivalent to 1s. 9d. consequently the amount of the confiscated property must be £525,000 sterling.

on the ground to dry, and when perfectly desiccated are carried to the capital of the island, and lodged in warehouses called *seraglios*, being poured into them by means of large doors in their roofs, until the warehouses are completely filled. They adhere so closely together when thus lodged, that immediately before their being barrelled, they are obliged to be removed with iron utensils.—Shipments of linens, damasks, and large quantities of Irish calicoes, have taken place to Rio Janeiro and Demerara, during this month, from Belfast; and also linens and calicoes to New York, but by no means in such large quantities as usual to the latter place. At the late linen-market in Dublin, fine linens met an extremely dull sale. Coarse goods, particularly half bleached yard wiles, and 4ths wiles, in general brought good profit to the seller. Many of the coarse linens sold, were for Spain, and some for the West Indies. Since the market, coarse linens have risen greatly in the brown market.—At no period of our history has there been known such stores of wine, brandy, hemp, tallow, timber, &c. as now crowd our docks, quays, and warehouses. It is said that the quantity of pipes, butts, puncheons, hogsheds, &c. of wine and spirits now under bond, and lying on demorage, exclusive of the quantity in the merchants' cellars, would, if placed endways, exceed one hundred miles in length.

The East-India Company declares for sale for March 14, 1810, the following goods. Bengal piece goods, muslins 26,093 pieces; calicoes 36235 pieces; prohibited goods 7606 pieces.—And for March 7, coast piece goods, calicoes, 432,599½ pieces—muslins, 150—prohibited goods, 35,262.—This is the largest sale of coast goods that has been declared for several years. They will also put up to sale upwards of 200,000 pieces of nankeen.

The following is a list of East-India ships lost, missing and taken within the last twelve months.

Walpole.....	820	lost in the Downs, Dec. 20, 1809.
Britannia	1200	lost in the Downs,
Admiral Gardner	813	Jan. 27, 1809.
Travers	577	lost at Bengal. Lloyd's List, April 25, 1809.
Lord Nelson	819	
Glory	502	
Experiment	543	Missing. See
Lady Jane Dundas	820	Lloyd's List,
Jane Duchess of Gordon	820	Sept. 26, 1809.
Bengal	818	
Calcutta	819	
Streatham	819	taken. Lloyd's List
Europe	820	Dec. 8, 1809.
Asia	820	lost in the Ganges See Lloyd's List, Dec. 3, 1809.
	11,067	tons.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

FROM THE 20TH OF NOVEMBER, TO THE 20TH
OF DECEMBER, 1809.

BIRTHS.

Of Sons.—The Queen of Prussia was safely delivered of a son on the 4th ult. at Königsberg. The event was announced to the citizens by firing of cannon.—At Heligoland, the lady of David Allan, Esq. commissary there.—Near Warwick, the lady of Roger Kynaston, Esq.—At Ballinamona, county of Waterford, the lady of Thomas Carew, Esq.—The lady of Christopher Thomas Tower, Esq. of Gadebridge, Herts.

Of a Daughter.—At Westhorpe-house, Bucks, the lady of Lieut.-general Sir George Nugent, Bart.

MARRIAGES.

At the town residence of Hon. Mr. Douglas, in Cumberland-place, Lord Hamilton, heir apparent to the House of Abercorn, to Miss Douglas.—Mr. Robert Mercer, of Stamford-street, to Miss S. Treacher, of Paternoster-row.—At Alverstoke, near Gosport, John Ogle, Esq. to Miss C. Connell.—At Queen-square church, Capt. Chas. Downes, of the 49th regt. to Miss Granville, of Taunton.—At Putney, Capt. J. Hirst, of the royal horse guards, to Miss H. A. Hankey, of Putney.—At Kingston, Surrey, Capt. John Walton, of his Majesty's ship Amethyst, to Miss Sarah Johnstone.—Js. Vine, Esq. of Bernard-street, Brunswick-square, to Miss Steer, of Devonshire-square.—At Stoke, near Guildford, Mr. O. Hatch, of Friday-street, to Miss Sparkes, of Guildford.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, Lieut.-col. Egerton, of 44th regt. to Miss Troubridge.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, G. W. Denys, Esq. to Miss E. Lind, of Stratford-place.—At St. Martin's in the Fields, W. Silvester Adlington, Esq. of Bedford, to Miss F. L. Addington, of Barnet.—At St. Martin's in the Fields, J. Wilkinson, Esq. to Miss C. Craig, of Great Scotland-yard.—At St. George's, Bloomsbury, Harold Daniel, Esq. to Miss Mary Ann Sloper, of Montague-street, Russell-square.—At St. George's, Hanover-square, John Pyne, Esq. of Great Houghton, Huntingdon, to Miss Mary Engleheart, of Newman-street.—John Butler, Esq. of Tavistock-square, to Mrs. Cockle, of Bath.—At Great Yarmouth, Capt. R. Spear, of the R. N. to Miss Anna Maria Walter.—At Houghton-le-Spring, Henry Geo. Liddle, Esq. of Ravensworth, to Miss Charlotte Lyon, of Hatton house.—John Tennent, jun. Esq. merchant in Glasgow, to Jessy, only daughter of the late Capt. Thos. Jones, of Slane-park, Wicklow, Ireland.—At Liverpool, Mungo Nutter Campbell, Esq. merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Helen Campbell, second daughter of the late John Campbell, sen. Esq. of Glasgow.—At Broxburn, Mr. John Carnie, merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Agnes Galbreath.—At Perth, Richard Chas. Blunt, Esq. son of the late Sir Ch. Blunt, to Miss Eliza Forbes Mercer, daughter of the late Capt. Mercer, of the R. Cav.—At Hill-house, by Bishop Sandford, John N. Macleod, Esq. of Macleod, to Ann, fourth daughter of J. Stephenson, Esq. of Great Ormond-street, London.—At Muirhead of Gask, Robert Low, Esq.

of Brackly, to Miss Mary Buchan, eldest daughter of David Buchan, Esq. of Muirhead of Gask.—At Edinburgh, William Simpson, Esq. to Margaret, eldest daughter of Francis Yates, Esq. merchant, Lerwick, Zetland.—At Edinburgh, Capt. Alex. Robertson, of the ship Surat Castle, of Hon. East-India Company, to Jane, eldest daughter of Alex. Laing, Esq. architect, Edinburgh.—At Montreal, Capt. A. Clerk, of the 49th regt. to Miss M' Rae.—Vice-admiral Aylmer, to Frances, youngest daughter of Rev. T. H. Pearson, of Queen Camel, Somerset.—At Glasgow, Archibald Buchanan, Esq. of Catrine Bank, Ayrshire, to Hannah, youngest daughter of late Mr. John Struthers, brewer in this city.—Alexander Reid, Esq. merchant, Leith, to Mary, second daughter of Michael Muirhead, Esq. merchant, Glasgow.—Mr. Robert Mac Callum, writer, Glasgow, to Ann, daughter of the late Mr. David Robb, merchant, Glasgow.—At Dumbarton, Mr. William Dunn Barclay, writer in Glasgow, to Anne, daughter of the late John Mac Aulay, Esq. of Levensgrove.—At St. Andrew's, Jos. Yates Cooper, Esq. of Lansdown-place, to Susan, youngest daughter of John Pollard, Esq. of Bedford-row.

DEATHS.

William Frogatt, Esq. high steward of Westminster.—Wm. Devaynes, Esq. of Dover-street.—At Barnet, John Corpe, Esq. surgeon of that place.—At the Havannah, R. W. Otley, Esq. of Cheapside.—At Sidmouth, George Curling, Esq. of Cleveland-row, St. James's.—At Appleby, Rev. Wm. Cowper, vicar of Ramsey and Dover Court cum Harwich.—At Kelvedon, in Essex, Mrs. S. Muscat, late of Grantham.—At Preston, Lady Mary Frances Heskest, abbess of the nuns of the order of St. Benedict, late of Ghent, in Flanders. She was first cousin to the Duke of Norfolk.—Sir James Branscomb, an eminent lottery-office keeper of Holborn.—Aged 95, John Holme, of Cob Wall, near Blackburn. He was servant to Henry Sudell, Esq. of Wodford, and his predecessors, for upwards of 80 years.—In Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, a man of the name of Greenwood, at the advanced age of 102 years; he retained all his faculties to the last. Although by various donations he received to the amount of 20s. or 27s. per week, he frequently stood in the streets, soliciting relief as a common beggar.—Sir Alex. Ball, governor of Malta.—Aged 75, Mr. Charles Brown, a respectable farmer, of Great Batton, Suffolk.—John Bastard, Esq. of the Blandford Bank. He had been spending the day with a party at Handford-house, the seat of H. Seymour, Esq. The night was extremely dark, and as he was returning home in a chaise, accompanied by his wife and daughter, the carriage was overturned when they had proceeded but a short distance: he was taken up alive, and immediately conveyed back to Handford; but he had received so much injury, that he expired before he could be conveyed into the house. Mrs. and Miss Bastard received very little personal injury; but their anguish on this melancholy occasion it would be difficult to describe.—At Cheltenham, in the 72d year of his age, Major-gen. Duncan Campbell, of the royal marines; in which corps he had served many years with the highest reputation.—At Woolwich, aged 102, W. Anderson, Esq. who had belonged to the train of artillery

upwards of 80 years. He had fought at the battle of Culloden, and in the campaigns on the Continent, under Wm. Duke of Cumberland, and preserved his faculties to the last.—In Bridge-street, of an inflammation in the bowels, James Dixon, Esq. aged 56 years.—At an advanced age, Sir Philip Stephens, who was 52 years secretary, and many years one of the lords of the admiralty. By his death his pension of £1500 per annum, falls into the public purse. His remains were interred at Fulham. Sir Philip Stephens has left the whole of his property and estates, in Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, to Lord Visc. Ranelagh.—Mr. Joseph Hole, farmer and grazier, of North Muskham, aged 72 years.—At Gravesend, Wm. Cruden, Esq. aged 76.—At Swansea, Robert Hamilton, Esq. son of the Rev. Dr. Hamilton, of Bath, and nephew of the late Sir W. Hamilton.—Ar her sister's, Mrs. Reade's, Camberwell, Mrs. Ann Langton, aged 91.—At Camberwell, Walter Burgue, Esq. aged 78.—At his apartments, in Belgrave-place, Pimlico, the eccentric George Wood, Esq. well known by the name of *Peck and Boozie*. He attended Charlotte chapel, Pimlico, and when the minister was longer in his sermon than ordinary, he would bang the pew-door to, and leave the chapel in a rage, exclaiming, his dinner would be spoiled. He had a great aversion to married women; when any passed him that he knew to be married, he exclaimed at them, "I hate a parcel of fusty married women!"—At Streatham, Hen. Thomas, Esq. aged 78.—At his hotel, in St. Martin's-lane, Mr. John Reid. He has left a widow and five children.—In Welbeck-street, John Gillon, Esq. formerly of the island of Jamaica.—At Brighton, Mrs. Vaughan, aged 82.—Mr. Joshua Brookes, of Horselydown, aged 73.—At Loboa, in Spain, of a fever, Capt. Jas. Macpherson, of the 42d regt.—At Cleland-house, much and deservedly regretted, Marton Dalrymple, Esq. of Fordel. The great national design of a *Rail-road from Glasgow to Berwick*, now in contemplation, owed its origin to his ingenuity; and, when carried into execution, it will remain an honourable monument of his enlightened views, and his indefatigable and persevering activity.—At Flushing, in Cornwall, whither she had gone for the recovery of her health, the lady of Sir John Stuart, Bart. of Allanbank, daughter of the late Jas. Coutts, Esq. and niece to Thomas Coutts, Esq. banker in London.—At Mayen, Capt. Charles Graham, of the royal engineers.—At Berbice, Capt. John Ogilvy, of the 1st battalion of the royals, eldest son of the Hon. Walter Ogilvy, of Clova.—At the Manse of West Kilbridge, Mrs. Ann Ferguson.—Dr. John Buchanan, of Provan-hall, in the 83d year of his age.

MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

STAFF, &c. IN 1809.

War-Office, October 24, 1809.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Lieut.-generals R. Donkin, J. Balfour, Sir J. Duffe, Kt. H. Lord Mulgrave, G. Blakenay, to be generals in the army.

Major-generals G. Elliot, B. Leighton, Rich. Chapman, J. Coffin, R. Armstrong, J. Murray,

Sir C. Green, Bart., Wm. St. Leger, R. N. Hopkins, Th. Hartcup, to be lieut.-generals in the army.

Colonels J. Hamilton, 81st foot; R. D. Blake, half-pay 8th garr. batt.; J. Barnes, royal invalid artillery; R. Douglas, royal artillery; Hon. R. Meade, 81st foot; Wm. Houston, 58th foot; J. Prime, 8th drag.; G. Mitchell, half-pay 31st light dragoons; T. Hislop, 8th W. I. regt.; J. Macleod, royal artillery; W. Cliffe, half-pay 9th foot; W. Wynyard, royal W. I. rangers; A. Wood, half-pay 120th foot; A. Dirom, 44th foot; A. L. Layard, half-pay 54th foot; T. Earl of Elgin, half-pay reg. of fencibles; J. Earl of Breadalbane, half-pay reg. of fencibles; J. Slade, 1st dragoons; W. Spencer, half-pay 23d light dragoons; S. Graham, 27th foot; J. Montgomery, 64th foot; F. A. Wetherall, Nova Scotia fencibles; W. Wright, late royal Irish artillery; J. D. Arabin, ditto; W. Buchanan, ditto; Hon. W. Lumley, half-pay 3d garr. batt.; R. Brereton, 63d foot; M. Disney, 1st reg. foot guards; J. Mackenzie, half-pay 78th foot; A. G. Stirling, half-pay 122d foot; W. Thomas, 41st foot; J. Michel, half-pay 14th light dragoons, to be major-generals in the army.

Lieut.-colonels H. Chester, Coldstream foot guards; F. W. Grant, half-pay 2d Argyll fencibles; E. Lloyd, 17th light dragoons; G. D. Drummond, 24th foot; M. Sharpe, half-pay 28th light dragoons; J. Lindsay, half-pay 46th foot; D. L. T. Weddington, half-pay 17th foot; R. Blunt, 3d foot; H. Bayley, Coldstream foot guards; R. Hulse, ditto; F. S. Rebow, 1st reg. life guards; G. Leigh, 10th light dragoons; G. S. Smith, 3d garr. batt.; W. Guard, 45th foot; Hon. E. M. Pakenham, 7th foot; H. McKinnon, Coldstream reg. foot guards; Sir T. R. Dyer, Bart. royal York rangers; J. Wynch, 4th foot; R. R. Gillespie, 25th light dragoons; H. Cowan, royal reg.; J. Baird, 83d foot; W. Wheatley, 1st foot guards; W. H. Pringle, inspecting field officer of militia in Canada; J. Hare, 22d light dragoons; O. T. Jones, 18th light dragoons; P. K. S. Skinner, 56th foot, to be colonels in the army.

Lieut.-col. A. Ross, 70th foot, aide-de-camp to the King.

Majors J. P. Hamilton, 4th garr. batt.; Wm. Jones, 5th drag. guards; B. Shore, 4th drag.; J. R. Coates, 69th foot; W. Johnson, 47th foot; P. Vaumorel, 30th foot; C. Sturt, 39th foot; F. Dunne, 7th drag. guards; J. Magrath, 3d garr. batt.; C. Darrah, 21st foot, to be lieut.-colonels in the army.

Captains I. S. Ridge, 47th foot; K. Bunbury, 7th drag. guards; E. Dalling, Coldstream guards; W. Fraser, 60th foot; I. T. Prentice, Cape reg.; P. Westropp, royal marines; — De Villicy, royal foreign artillery; J. Edwards, 80th foot; P. Robins, 69th foot; A. Wilkinson, 13th foot; J. Goodridge, 62d foot; P. Dorville, 1st drag.; J. Currey, 6th foot; C. O'Gorman, 18th foot, to be majors in the army.

Nov. 25.—3d reg. Dragoons—Lieut. H. L. Rose, 7th drag. guards, capt. of a troop.

1st reg. Guards—Capt. J. R. Udney, capt. of a company.

10th reg. Foot—Capt. H. Heathcote, 60th foot, capt. of a company.

14th reg. Foot.—Capt. Wm. Davidson, 72d foot, capt. of a company.

16th ditto—Lieut.-col. H. Tolley, 1st W. I. regt., capt. of a company.

51st ditto—Capt. F. Sparks, major.

60th ditto—Lt. P. Mayor, capt. of a company.

72d ditto—Capt. J. Dunlop, 14th foot, capt. of a company.

88th ditto—Capt. R. B. McGregor, major.

91st ditto—Brevet Lieut.-col. B. Gleg, lieut.-col.; Capt. D. McNeill, major; Lieut. D. Campbell, capt. of a company.

95th ditto—Lieut. D. Ferguson, 52d foot, capt. of a company.

2d Royal Vet. Batt.—Capt. J. Crooks, Nova Scotia fencibles, capt. of a company.

Staff—Brevet Major F. Gomer, 60th foot, staff capt. at the foreign dépôt at Lymington.

Hospital Staff—Dep. Inspector Wm. Ferguson, inspector of hospitals in Portugal only, under the command of Lieut.-gen. Beresford.

Dec. 2.—2d reg. Drag. Guards—Lieut. H. B. Gamble, capt. of a troop.

19th reg. Light Drag.—Lieut. J. Atkins, capt. of a troop.

12th reg. Foot—Brevet Lieut.-col. J. Picton, lieut.-colonel.

40th ditto—Lieut. C. Ellis, capt. of a company.

56th ditto—Lieut. W. Gun, capt. of a company.

69th ditto—Lieut. J. Leslie, capt. of a company.

77th ditto—Lieut. C. Kilshaw, capt. of a company.

1st W. I. reg.—Major J. Morrison, 89th foot, lieut.-colonel.

3d Ceylon reg.—Major J. Maitland, lieut.-col.

Staff—Acting Dep. Commissary—Boyes, dep. commissary general of the forces.

To be Assist. Commissaries to the Forces—Haines, —Downie, and —Wemyss.

Hospital Staff—Apothecary Christ. Codrington, surgeon of a recruiting district.

King's German Legion—1st reg. Drag.—Capt. and Brigade Major F. Baron Usler, capt. of a troop, with temporary rank.

Dec. 16.—8th reg. Light Dragoons—Lieut. G. W. Walker, capt. of a troop, vice Young, dec.

11th ditto—Major J. W. Sleigh, lieut.-col. by purchase, vice Thomas, retires; Capt. A. Money, major, by purchase, vice Sleigh; Lieut. C. Fallon, capt. of a troop, by purchase, vice Money.

18th ditto—Hospital-mate J. Poett, assist.-surgeon, vice Jebb, promoted.

10th reg. Foot—Brevet Lieut.-col. J. P. Hamilton, 4th garr. batt. major, vice Bates, who exchanges; R. Bluntish, Esq. paymaster of the 2d batt. vice Ragland, who resigns.

42d ditto—Lieut. John Swanson, capt. of a company, vice J. Macpherson, dec.

69th ditto—Lieut. J. Bisset, capt. of a company, vice Cunningham, dec.

79th ditto—Assist.-surgeon W. G. Burrell, 63d foot, assist.-surgeon.

83d ditto—Lieut. E. Renwick, 72d foot, capt. of a company.

80th ditto—Capt. R. Butler, major, without purchase, vice Hilliard, dec.; Lieut. R. C. Rose, capt. without purchase, vice Butler.

Staff—Major C. Edwards, 3d Ceylon reg. dep. adj. gen. to the forces serving in the island of Ceylon, vice Brownrigg, deceased.

UNIVERSITY PROCEEDINGS AND PROMOTIONS.

Oxford.

Oct 14.—Tuesday last, the first day of Michaelmas term, the following gentlemen were admitted:—*B. U. L.* D. Williams, of New college.—*M. A.* Rev. J. Mason, Rev. P. Wood, of Oriel, J. Burrows, of Brasenose, E. Ellis, Rev. W. Cleaver, Rev. J. Russell, of Christ church, Rev. W. Fell, of Queen's college.—*B. A.* T. Mawdesley, Mr. E. Cardswell, of Brasenose, J. Hill, of St. Edmund's hall, C. Eddy, of Magdalen col.

Oct. 28.—Rev. J. Clutton, of Trinity col., admitted B. D.

The following gentlemen are admitted:—*M. A.* W. Wightman, B.A. of Queen's college; Rev. W. Perry, of Magdalen-hall; Rev. W. C. Marshall, of Brasenose college; Rev. J. Buckland, Rev. J. Blencowe, Rev. A. Meyrick, of Trinity college.—*B. A.* J. Tuckey, of Magdalen-hall; W. P. Richards, of Queen's college; C. Annesley, of Christ church, A. Quicke, J. Castwick, of New col.; T. Tanner, of Balliol col.; J. Moore, J. Bannister, of Worcester col.; Hen. J. S. Cocks, of Brasenose col.; W. Kinsey, of Trinity col.

Dr. G. H. Hall succeeds Dr. C. Jackson in the deanry of Christ church.

Nov. 4.—Rev. F. Hodson, B. D. Principal of Brasenose college, admitted D. D.

Lords Grenville and Eldon, and the Duke of Beaufort, have declared themselves candidates for the Chancellorship of this University, vacant by death of Duke of Portland.

Mr. Annesley and Mr. Sneyd, both of Christ church, elected Fellows of that society.

J. Phillimore, D. C. L. of Christ church, appointed Professor of Civil Law, in room of Dr. F. Laurence, deceased.

Rev. Wm. Crabtree, B. A. of University col., appointed Master of said col., in room of Rev. Dr. Smyth, deceased.

Nov. 13.—Admitted to degrees: *M. A.* Rev. R. Simpson, of Magdalen hall; Rev. E. Jones, of Jesus col.; Rev. R. H. Wright, Rev. F. Pappendick, of Trinity col.—*Bach. in Music*, Mr. J. Jay, of Magdalen hall.

Nov. 18.—Tuesday last Mr. Rashleigh was admitted a Fellow of New col.

Mr. Lancaster, B. A. of Queen's col., was elected Fellow of that society on Mr. Mitchell's foundation.

Nov. 25.—Thursday last the following gentlemen were admitted to degrees: *M. A.* A. Savile, Esq. and J. Phelps, Esq. of Christ church; Rev. C. Bryan, of Oriel col.—*B. A.* W. H. Jones, Esq. Mesrs. R. Gray and C. Crook, of Oriel; J. Algar, of Wadham; J. W. Mackie, J. Birn, E. Howelt, and P. G. Slatter, of Christ church; T. Landon, of Worcester; W. Hoskins, of Trinity; T. Allies, of St. Edmund hall; T. Hancock, of Pembroke; W. Jones, of Jesus; and N. Dodson, of St. John's col.

Dec. 9.—J. Phillimore, D. C. L. of Christ church, and Regius Professor of Civil Law, has been presented to the canonry or prebend in the cathedral church of Salisbury, called Shipton, near Burford, in this county, void by death of F. Laurence, D. C. L. late Professor.

The following gentlemen were admitted to the under-mentioned degrees: *B. C. L.* Rev. G. M. Bethune, M. A. University col. *B. A.* Mr. C. H. Johnson, of Braseno c. *D. C. L.* Rev. G. M. Bethune, of University col. *M. A.* Wm. Petet, Esq. of Christchurch; Rev. C. B. Hen-ville, of New col.; Mr. T. Moore, of Balliol; and Rev. C. Spencer, of Queen's. *B. A.* Mr. J. E. Tyler, of Oriel; Mr. G. Calvert, of University; and Mr. S. Richardson, of Jesus col.

The election of Chancellor of the University of Oxford concluded at ten o'clock on Thursday night the 14th inst., after the most severe contest ever experienced. The numbers were:

For Lord Grenville	406
Lord Eldon	406
Duke of Beaufort	288

Lord Grenville was therefore declared duly elected, by a majority of 16 over Lord Eldon, and of 118 over the Duke of Beaufort.

This election was more warmly contested than any recollected in Oxford. So great a number of votes, amounting to 1081, were never before offered: the whole that have a right to vote amount only to 1274. All the Bishops who have a vote for the election of Chancellor in this University, it is understood, voted for Lord Grenville, except two, who, it is reported, voted for Lord Eldon.

Cambridge.

Oct. 21.—J. T. Woodhouse, E. q. Fellow of Caius col., was admitted Doctor in Medicine; Mr. T. Sims, of Queen's col., B. A.

Rev. J. H. Geldart, LL. B. Fel. of Catharine hall, was elected a Fellow of Trinity hall.

Dr. Madan has resigned the situation of Canon Residentiary of Litchfield, and Dr. Outram, Public Orator of this University, succeeds him.

A splendid copy of Lord Valentia's Travels, with proof impressions of all the plates and etchings, printed on elephant paper, was presented by his lordship to the University.

The Address from this University was presented to his Majesty at the Queen's House, on Wednesday 25th Oct., at four o'clock, by Rev. Dr. Pearson, Vice-Chancellor, attended by the deputation appointed by the Senate:—Rev. Dr. Barnes, Rev. Dr. Clarke, Sir B. Harwood, Rev. Mr. Chafy, J. Kaye, Esq. Rev. Mr. Veasey, Dep. Reg. J. Beverley, Esq. and H. Gunning, Esq. accompanied by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop of Salisbury, Bishop of Eristol, Lord Camden, Lord Harrowby, Lord Palmerston, Rt. Hon. S. Perceval, the Attorney General, Hon. Mr. Ryder, Hon. D. Saunders, C. Poole, Esq. the Masters of Trinity and Catharine halls, Dr. Marsh, Dr. Butler, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Courtney, Earl Dumfries, of Christ col., and many other university members. The King returned a most gracious answer, and the deputation had the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand.

Nov. 4.—Rev. I. Milner, D.D. President of Queen's col., was elected Vice-Chancellor of this University for the year ensuing. The Heads of Houses are generally chosen in rotation, and the turn this year came to the Master of Christ col.; but the majority of the electors being in favour of the President of Queen's, he was chosen to this very respectable office.

The Seatonian prize is this year adjudged to G. Pryme, Esq. M.A. Fel. of Trinity col., for his poem—*The Conquest of Canaan*.

Nov. 5.—The oration in the Senate House was delivered by the Rev. W. Gee, M.A. Fel. of Sidney col.

Nov. 7.—Rev. R. J. Geldart was elected a Skerne Fellow of Catharine hall.

Nov. 10.—Rev. R. Tatham, M.A. Fel. of St. John's col., was elected Public Orator of this University.—The numbers were, for

Rev. R. Tatham	162
Rev. R. Walpole	132

Nov. 11.—Mr. J. Smith was elected Printer to the University. The other candidate nominated was Mr. H. Bryer, of London. At the close of the poll the numbers were, for

Mr. Smith	122
Mr. Bryer	25

Mr. Smith has been principal assistant at the office for a great many years, and several of the most respectable members of the university signed testimonials highly creditable to his abilities and integrity.

Nov. 15.—Mr. J. Baker, of St. John's col., was admitted B. C. L.; Mr. W. L. Pickard, of Trinity hall, B. A.

Nov. 17.—Mr. J. Heath, of King's col., was elected a Fel. of that society.

Mr. T. Mitchell, M.A. of Pembroke hall, was elected a Fel. of Sidney col.

Nov. 20.—The Downing Professor of Law began his Lectures on the *Laws and Constitution of England*, on Monday the 13th, at one o'clock, in St. John's col., Combination Room.

Nov. 25.—Rev. Wm. Aug. Pemberton, B. D. Fel. of Emmanuel col., was on Wednesday, 22d instant, elected Registrary of this university. The other candidate nominated was Rev. T. Kerrich, M. A. principal Librarian. The numbers were, for

Rev. W. A. Pemberton	171
Rev. T. Kerrich	55

Rev. Wm. Bulmer, M. A. of Magdalen col., was admitted a Fel. of that society.

The subject for the Norrisian prize for the ensuing year is—*The Connection of Religion and Learning*.

Dec. 2.—Rev. Dr. Cory, Master of Emmanuel col., is appointed Casuistical Professor of Divinity, vacant by death of Rev. G. Borlase.

A. W. Pemberton, E. q. of Caius col., was admitted M. A.; and Rev. J. Vandermeulen, of the same col., B. C. L.

Rev. G. Palmer, M. A. of Jesus col., was elected a Fellow of that society.

On the late Jubilee Day, the Master and Seniors of Trinity col., voted a donation of fifty guineas to the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Dec. 16.—Mr. J. Lonsdale, of King's col., was admitted a Fel. of that society.

Mr. John Evans, B. A. is elected a Fel. of Clare hall.

The List of Bankrupts is unavoidably postponed till our next.

Smithfield, per stone of 8lb. to sink the offal.

	Beef.	Mutton.	Veal.	Pork.	Lamb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 27	5 4	5 6	7 4	7 6	—
Dec. 1	5 2	5 0	7 0	7 2	—
11	6 2	5 8	7 4	7 6	—
15	5 10	6 0	7 6	7 6	—

Newgate and Loadenhall, by the carcase.

	Nov. 27 <th>4 4<th>5 0<th>6 4<th>6 8<th>—</th></th></th></th></th>	4 4 <th>5 0<th>6 4<th>6 8<th>—</th></th></th></th>	5 0 <th>6 4<th>6 8<th>—</th></th></th>	6 4 <th>6 8<th>—</th></th>	6 8 <th>—</th>	—
	Dec. 1 <th>4 6<th>5 0<th>6 0<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th></th></th>	4 6 <th>5 0<th>6 0<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th></th>	5 0 <th>6 0<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th>	6 0 <th>7 0<th>—</th></th>	7 0 <th>—</th>	—
	11 <th>4 4<th>4 10<th>5 8<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th></th></th>	4 4 <th>4 10<th>5 8<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th></th>	4 10 <th>5 8<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th>	5 8 <th>7 0<th>—</th></th>	7 0 <th>—</th>	—
	16 <th>4 8<th>5 0<th>6 4<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th></th></th>	4 8 <th>5 0<th>6 4<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th></th>	5 0 <th>6 4<th>7 0<th>—</th></th></th>	6 4 <th>7 0<th>—</th></th>	7 0 <th>—</th>	—

St. James's.*

Whitechapel.*

	Hay.	Straw.	Hay.	Straw.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Nov. 27	6 10 0	2 11 0	6 6 0	2 2 0
Dec. 2	6 6 0	2 5 0	5 2 0	1 13 0
11	6 8 0	2 8 0	6 0 0	1 17 0
15	6 6 0	2 8 0	6 0 0	1 19 0

Butts, 50 to 56lb. 23d.	Flat Ordinary	— 18d.
Dressing Hides 21	Calf Skins, 30 to 40lb.	—
Crop Hides for cut. 23	per dozen	— 34
	Ditto, 50 to 70	40

TALLOW.* London Average per stone of 8lbs. 5s. 0½d. Soap, yellow, 102s.; mottled, 114s.; curd, 118s. Candles, per dozen, 14s.; moulds, 15s.

	Nov. 27	8,285 quarters.	Average 101s. 10½d.
	Dec. 2	6,390	— 101 1½
	11	14,126	— 101 6½
	16	13,329	— 101 5½

	Nov. 27	20,415 sacks.	Average 94s. 6½d.
	Dec. 2	20,949	— 94 5½
	11	13,698	— 94 7½
	16	11,312	— 94 7½

	Nov. 27	4s. 11d.	2s. 5½d.	1s. 2½d.
	Dec. 2	4 11	2 5½	1 2½
	11	5 0	2 6	1 3
	18	4 11	2 5½	1 2½

* The highest price of the market.

American pot-ash, per cwt.	£2 18 0	to 3 0 0
Ditto pearl.....	3 10 0	0 0 0
Barilla.....	2 12 6	3 0 0
Brandy, Coniac.....gal.	1 2 0	1 3 6
Camphire, refined.....lb.	0 8 0	0 9 0
Ditto unrefined.....cwt.	27 0 0	0 0 0
Cochineal, garbled.....lb.	1 13 0	1 18 0
Ditto, East-India.....	0 5 10	0 7 3
Coffee, fine.....cwt.	6 0 0	6 10 0
Ditto ordinary.....	4 9 0	4 14 0
Cotton Wool, Surinam, lb.	0 2 0	0 2 3
Ditto Jamaica.....	0 1 7	0 1 8
Ditto Smyrna.....	0 1 4	0 1 5
Ditto East-India.....	0 1 0	0 3 6
Currants, Zant.....cwt.	3 10 0	4 14 0
Elephants' Teeth.....	20 0 0	31 0 0
Scirvelloes.....	14 0 0	20 0 0
Flax, Riga.....ton	107 0 0	108 0 0
Ditto Petersburg.....	90 0 0	100 0 0
Galls, Turkey.....cwt.	7 5 0	7 7 0
Geneva, Hollands.....gal.	0 19 6	1 0 0
Ditto English.....	0 10 0	0 14 0
Gum Arabic, Turkey,cwt.	9 0 0	11 11 0
Hemp, Riga.....ton	0 0 0	83 0 0
Ditto Petersburg.....	0 0 0	84 0 0
Hops.....cwt.	2 0 0	3 0 0
Indigo, Caracca.....lb.	0 9 3	0 10 9
Ditto East-India.....	0 3 3	0 10 6
Iron, British bars, ..ton	18 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto Swedish.....	20 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto Norway.....	0 0 0	0 0 0
Lead in pigs.....fod.	39 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto red.....ton	35 0 0	0 0 0

	COA Ls.	Sunderland.	Newcastle.
	s. d. to s. d.	s. d. to s. d.	s. d. to s. d.
Nov. 27	—	—	45s. 6d. to 72s. 3d.
Dec. 1	—	—	64 0 64 6
11	54 0	60 0	43 0 71 3
16	59 0	—	56 9 74 9

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Nov.	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Dec.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Barometer.	37	37	39	40	40	42	42	35	35	32	41	32	37	43	43	35	46	49	49	44	46	42	42	38	38	39	38	40	41	40	39
Thermometer.	34	34	47	46	47	42	45	42	41	35	41	32	37	43	43	35	46	49	49	44	46	42	42	38	38	39	38	40	41	40	39
Height of Barom.	30.28	30.28	30.28	29.95	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	30.28	
Direction of Wind.	10	10	12	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	18	15	20	26	6	10	10	24	24	16	24	10	7	10	5	5	0	0	15	13
Force of Wind.	Fair	Fair	Fair	Showery	Rain	Fair	Fair	Fair	Cloudy	Small Rain	Small Rain	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Cloudy	Cloudy	Stormy	Fair	Showery	Fair	Fair	Stormy	Stormy	Fair	Showery	Fair	Fair	Rain	Cloudy

Prices Current, December 20th, 1809.

Lead, white.....ton	49 10 0	to 0 6 0
Logwood chips.....ton	16 0 0	0 0 0
Madder, Dutch crop cwt.	4 13 0	5 10 0
Mahogany.....ft.	0 1 3	0 2 4
Oil, Lucca, ..25 gal. jar	30 0 0	35 0 0
Ditto spermaceet.....ton	100 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto whale.....	40 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto Florence, ½ chest	4 4 0	4 10 0
Pitch, Stockholm, ..cwt.	0 19 6	1 0 0
Raisins, bloom.....cwt.	4 0 0	7 0 0
Rice, Carolina.....	1 10 0	0 0 0
Rum, Jamaica.....gal.	0 5 0	0 6 9
Ditto Leeward Island	0 4 0	0 4 4
Saltpetre, East-India,cwt.	4 2 6	0 0 0
Silk, thrown, Italian, .lb.	2 10 0	3 5 0
Silk, raw, Ditto.....	1 9 0	2 16 0
Tallow, English.....cwt.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto, Russia, white..	4 5 0	0 0 0
Ditto....., yellow..	4 9 0	0 0 0
Tar, Stockholm.....bar	2 12 0	0 0 0
Tin in blocks.....cwt.	6 3 0	0 0 0
Tobacco, Maryl.....lb.	0 10 0	0 1 4
Ditto Virginia.....	0 0 9	0 1 4
Wax, Guinea.....cwt.	11 0 0	11 11 0
Whale-fins (Greenl.) ton.	38 0 0	39 0 0
Wine, Red Port.....pipe	90 0 0	96 0 0
Ditto Lisbon.....	87 0 0	90 0 0
Ditto Madeira.....	80 0 0	120 0 0
Ditto Vidonia.....	75 0 0	78 0 0
Ditto Calcavella.....	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto Sherry.....butt	92 0 0	100 0 0
Ditto Mountain.....	75 0 0	80 0 0
Ditto Claret.....hegs.	70 0 0	90 0 0

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Amsterdam, 2 us. 32.—Ditto at sight, 31-5.—Rotterdam, 9-18.—Hamburgh, 25-6.—Altona, 29-7.—Paris, 1 day's date 19-16.—Ditto, 2 us. 20.—Madrid, in paper —.—Ditto, eff. 44.—Cadiz, in paper —.—Cadiz, eff. 40.—Bilboa, 41.—Palermo, per oz. 110d.—Leghorn, 60.—Genoa, 53.—Venice, eff. 62.—Naples, 42.—Lisbon, 65.—Oporto, 67.—Dublin, per cent. 93.—Cork, do. 10.—Agio B. of Holland, per cent.

Daily Prices of STOCKS, from 20th November to 20th December, 1809. N.B. In the 3 per cent. consols the highest and lowest price of each day is given; in the other stocks the highest only. 36, Clements Lane.

1809.	Nov. 21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Dec. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Bank	2274	23	26	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
3 p. Cent.	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69
3 p. Reduced.	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69
3 p. Consols.	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
4 p. Cons. 1780.	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84
Navy	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102
5 p. Cent.	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Long	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Annuities	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Orbium	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Imperial	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67
3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock.	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195	195
India Bonds.	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
South Sea	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
Old Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Ditto.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 d. Exchng.	9	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
2 s. d. Treasury Tickets.	p. 22	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Consols for Acct.	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
Orbium	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Irish 3 p. Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Premiums of Insurance, December 20th, 1809.
 S. America.—At 12 gs. To Musquito shore, Honduras, &c. return £6.—To East Indies; out and home.—East Indies to London £12.—Windward and Leeward Islands to U. S. of America, Quebec, Montreal, &c. 8gs. ret. £4.
 At 20 gs. Southern Whale-fishery.
 At 25 gs. Newfoundland, Jamaica, and Leeward Islands.
 (British ships), return £5.—Jamaica to U. S. of America.
 At 5 gs. To Madeira to U. S. of America.
 At 6 gs. Gibraltar, Madeira, return £3.
 At 8 gs. Newfoundland, Labrador, &c.—Jamaica, or Leeward Islands.—Brazil, So. America, return £4.
 At 10 gs. Senegambia.—U. S. of America, (British ships), return £5.—Jamaica to U. S. of America.
 At 12 gs. To Yarmouth, Hull, Newcastle, Liverpool, Chester, &c.
 At 14 gs. Ports of Scotland. Weymouth, Dartmouth, Plymouth.
 At 3 gs. Dublin, Cork, Derry, Limerick, Bristol, Chester, &c.—From Liverpool, Bristol, &c. to Dublin, Cork, or Waterford.—Bengal, Madras, or China 12 gs.
 At 4 gs. St. Helena, or Cape of Good Hope, Dublin, Cork, &c. to London, (Comp.

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, &c. in December, 1809, at the Office of Mr Scott, 28, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London.
 Leeds and Liverpool, £180, ex dividend.—Grand Junction, £226, ex dividend of £2 10s. per share clear.
 Kennet and Avon, £46. 10s. to £45. 10s.—Wilts and Berks, £53. 15s. to £53.—Huddersfield, £381.
 Ellesmere, £80.—Lancaster, £20.—Grand Surrey old shares at £65, with new ditto attached, at par.—
 West India-Dock Stock at £185 per cent.—East-India ditto, £135.—London Dock, £138 to £139.—Com-
 mercial Dock, £80 to £85 premium.—Globe Assurance, £195 per share.—Atlas, par.—East-London water-
 works, £927.—West-Middlesex ditto, £42 premium.—Kent ditto, £47 premium.—Portsea and Farlington
 ditto, premium.—Portsmouth ditto, £35 premium.—Vauxhall Bridge, £2. 2s. premium.